THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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LARRY KING, LEGEND OF U.S. TV TALK SHOW, PASSES AWAY AT 87

Staple of US television for decades, King lost his battle with Covid at Cedars-Sinai Med Centre in Los Angeles on Saturday

CELEBRITIES, LEADERS JUST A CALL AWAY

The Larry King Show ran from 1978 until 1994, winning King a coveted Peabody Award in 1982. He started Larry King Live on CNN in 1985, a show that covered a wide range of topics. In 1995 he presided over a Middle East peace summit. His show featured everyone from the Dalai Lama to Elizabeth Taylor, from Mikhail Gorbachev to Barack Obama, Bill Gates to Lady Gaga

SANG WITH SINATRA, KISSED BRANDO

- Frank Sinatra, who rarely gave interviews, appeared on King's show in 1988 in what would be the singer's last major TV appearance
- More elusive than Sinatra was Marlon Brando, but the latter appeared on King's show in 1994. They hit it off so famously that they ended their talk with a song and an on-the-mouth kiss | P11

50,000
ON-AIR INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY KING IN HIS FIVE-DECADE CAREER

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

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Mamata Banerjee participates in a foot march to mark Netaji's 125th birth anniversary, in Kolkata on Saturday | PTI

Strong India following in Netaji footsteps: PM

Bitter political fight to appropriate Bose's legacy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday sought to draw a parallel between Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's vision and his government's action at an event to mark the legendary freedom fighter's 125th birth anniversary in Kolkata.

Modi said Netaji would have been proud to see that the country has become strong and is following in his footsteps from the Line of Control (LoC) to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with Pakistan and China, respectively. "Netaji had dreamt of a strong India, from LAC to LoC. We are following in his footsteps. Whenever our sovereignty was challenged, we have given a befitting reply," he said at a programme held in the Victoria Memorial Hall here. "Netaji wanted to build an Atmanirbhar Bharat. Today, India is heading towards the same goal," said Modi.

The PM's visit assumed significance ahead of the Assembly polls in West Bengal. Apart from recalling Netaji's contribution, Modi's speech projected the Bengal icon as the leading light of India's Independence whose dreams the present government is trying to realise. He also likened his party's 'Sonar Bangla' slogan with Netaji's dream. The 'Sonar Bangla' slogan has become a political tool of the BJP to attack Mamata's "poor" governance.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who also attended the event, was visibly angry as a section of the crowd chanted *Jai Shri Ram* when her turn came to speak. "I think the government's programme should have dignity. .... It (slogan) doesn't suit you to insult an invitee. In protest, I will not speak anything," Mamata said and returned to her seat on the dais next to Modi. P9,10

Why not four national capitals, asks Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

AS West Bengal politics heated up ahead of the make-or-break Assembly elections later this year, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee set the cat among the pigeons on Saturday, demanding four separate capitals in the country with four parliament sessions in these cities on rotation.

Speaking at an event to mark Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary hours before Prime Minister Narendra Modi landed in Kolkata to participate in another Netaji function, Banerjee asked: "The British ruled the entire country from Kolkata. Why should there be only one capital in our country, why not four national capitals in North, South, East and West?" She went on to ask: "Why can't four parliament sessions be held on a rotational basis?"

Earlier, Banerjee took part in a road show stretching 5.5 kms. She inaugurated Netaji's birthday celebration by blowing conch shells and visited the Netaji Bhavan, the late Indian National Army leader's home in the city. Taking a dig at the Centre's unilateral decision to mark January 23 as Parakram Diwas (day of valour), Banerjee said: "We celebrate Netaji's birthday every year, we don't celebrate it only in the year of elections."

The contrasting moods of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at the Victoria Memorial Hall event | TWITTER

> **What is Parakram Diwas (day of valour)? How could they unilaterally decide to mark January 23 as Parakram Diwas without consulting the state government? We have called it Desh Nayak Diwas** — Mamata Banerjee, CM

CM DRAWS FIRE OVER CALL TO GET ILLEGAL QUARRIES 'REGULARISED'

K SHIVAKUMAR @ Mysuru/Bengaluru

ON a day the death toll in the Shivamogga stone quarry explosion increased to six and explosives experts from Hyderabad joined the investigation, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's statement asking unauthorised miners to apply for regularisation triggered a major political slugfest on Saturday.

In an indicator of the gravity of the situation, the Centre has taken serious note of the blast and directed the state to probe how such a huge quantity of explosives was procured and stored. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked the state to consider the case seriously.

Speaking to mediapersons in Mysuru before taking a chopper to visit the blast site in his home district Shivamogga, the CM asked illegal miners to apply with the respective District Deputy Commissioners for regularisation. His remarks drew sharp criticism from the Opposition Congress, prompting an immediate clarification from Home and Law & Parliamentary Affairs Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

"Shivamogga has witnessed a major tragedy. I have ordered a comprehensive inquiry into the cause of the blast, if the explosives were stored illegally, who permitted the transportation of explosive substance in a lorry and all other aspects. The officers have also been directed to look into whether the mine is legal," the CM said.

Responding to a question on illegal mining in many places, the CM said mining activities will continue as development works like construction of national highways and other projects are being taken up in a big way. "I have directed the deputy commissioners not to permit illegal mining. Those carrying out illegal mining should apply for regularisation or face action. I have no objection to operation of stone-crushing units. If necessary, the DCs concerned will inspect the spot and take appropriate decisions," he said. P4

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa visits the quarry where six labourers died in a blast near Shivamogga, on Saturday | SHIMOGA NANDAN

Nod to farmers' tractor rally after R-Day parade

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

IT seems the talks between the Centre and the farmer unions have hit a dead end. After marathon meetings on Saturday, the farmer leaders said they were firm on their demand for repeal of the agri laws.

Farmer union leaders said that the issue did not even come up for discussion at the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) meeting. "In the meeting of the Samkyukt Kisan Morcha, an umbrella body of around 40 farmer organisations, the only discussion was on what happened in the meeting of farmer leaders with Delhi Police earlier in the day. The farmer leaders were briefed about that and the route for the tractor rally was discussed," said a union leader after the SKM meeting.

Earlier, after the meeting between Delhi Police and 32 unions, the farmer leaders claimed they had received permission for the tractor parade on Republic Day. Budging from their demand that the rally will be held on Outer Ring Road, the farmers are likely to opt out of it. An estimated one lakh tractors will be part of the rally.

Sources said the parade will have five routes over a stretch of over 100 km. The farmers are likely to confine their parade to the inner roads of the Capital. Delhi Police agreed to remove barricades from Singhu and Tikri borders to allow tractors to enter Delhi, for the rally that is likely to take place after the official Republic Day parade.

During the 11th round of talks on Friday, the Centre had asked the farmer leaders to reconsider its proposal to put the laws on hold for 18-24 months and set up a panel to consider amendments to the law, an offer the unions had already rejected a day earlier. The Centre told them this was its 'final' proposal and asked them to reconsider it and come with a better offer, if they had any, barring the repeal of the laws, on January 22. P9

Farmers stage a protest during the 'Kisan Sansad' at Guru Tegh Bahadur Memorial in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

B'luru will have separate body to manage traffic

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WITH Bengaluru ranking sixth among 10 cities with the worst traffic across the world as per the recent Tom Tom Traffic Index, the state is planning to have a a separate Traffic Management Authority for the city.

Speaking at the launch of the Road Safety Awareness month, Home and Law Minister Basavaraj Bommai said Bengaluru's traffic population is fast catching up with the human population. In Bengaluru alone, there is 85 lakh vehicles for the 1.35 crore people. The numbers have increased manifold over the last 10 years and hence, a proper management system is necessary. For this, the Home Department, along with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, will come up with a Traffic Management Authority that will ensure the easing of traffic congestion in the city, he explained.

"The vehicle population in Bengaluru is about 85 lakh while in the rest of the state, it is around 2.32 lakh. This means we have to ensure there is proper management to decongest traffic," Bommai said. "It is important that the Home department works with BBMP and the IT sector to implement traffic discipline and also good traffic management. We will be bringing in sophisticated systems with modern technology soon," he said. P2

EXPRESS READ

AAP MLA gets 2 years jail in assault case

New Delhi: Aam Aadmi Party MLA Somnath Bharti was on Saturday sentenced to two years in jail by a court here in a 2016 case related to assaulting AIIMS security staff.

Another underground tunnel found in J-K

Jammu: The BSF on Saturday found a second underground tunnel, constructed by Pakistan in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, to facilitate the infiltration of terrorists. P9

PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

VACCINE DRIVE IN STATE

Karnataka continues to be on the top among states in the number of beneficiaries taking the vaccine. Here's a look at how the vaccination drive went off in the past week (Jan 16 - Jan 23)

4,106 Sessions planned	56% Coverage
4,049 Sessions held	
3,28,478 Target beneficiaries	9 Adverse events (AEFIs)
1,84,154 Achieved	

TOTAL VACCINE DOSES RECEIVED

12,52,000	Covishield
1,66,240	Covaxin
55,00,000	Syringes

Big, bold moves put Karnataka's economy back on growth path

ANUSHA RAVI @ Bengaluru

"THERE will be no lockdown in Bengaluru or anywhere in the state from now on. People need to get back to their lives. The state has to consider reviving the economy too," Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa had said in July 2020 amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The decision came at a time many states were still extending the lockdown and imposing curfews in an attempt to curtail the spread of coronavirus.

It was perhaps this risky and bold, but much-needed decision that has put Karnataka's economy on the road to recovery. Six months down the line, with subsidies, incentives, facilitation, heavy borrowings, fund rationalisation, labour and land law amendments, along with a whole lot of cost-cutting measures, Karnataka's economy is steadily picking up pace. Whether in terms of revenue receipts or sector-wise growth, Karnataka is doing better month after month while, at the same time, managing to keep the number of Covid-19 cases in check. Though the state may still fall short of achieving revenue and growth targets due to the impact of the pandemic, its recovery has been better than anticipated, according to the State Finance department.

On Friday, Union Minister for Chemical and Fertilisers D V Sadananda Gowda said the Central Government had given its in-principal approval for setting up a Plastic Park in Mangaluru. P7

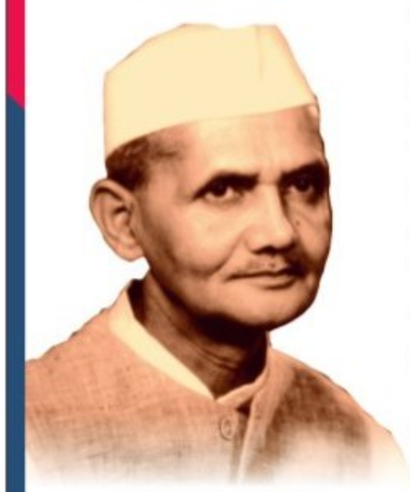
BIG-TICKET PROJECTS

₹1,702 cr
for Vasantha Narasapura industrial hub expected to create 88,500 jobs in 5 years

Koppal toy cluster with an investment commitment of ₹1,540 crore expected to create 40,000 - one lakh jobs in five years

₹323 cr
for elevated corridor at Rani Chennamma Circle in Hubballi city and construction of four-lane road and minor bridge near Dastikoppa, Kalaghatgi taluk, on NH 63 under national highways projects

25 YEARS LBSIM SILVER JUBILEE
NURTURING SOCIALLY SENSITIVE BUSINESS LEADERS



BHARAT RATNA
SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI
(1904-1966)

Nominations are invited for

LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE: 2021

Nominations are invited for the 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence: 2021 which honours each year a distinguished Indian, residing either in India or abroad, for his/her sustained individual contributions and outstanding achievements of high professional order and excellence in the field of management, public administration, public affairs, education, institution building, art & culture and sports. The Awardee will be selected by a jury comprising of eminent persons.

The Award is given every year on October 1, the eve of the birth anniversary of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. The honour carries an award of Rs. Five Lakh plus a citation and a plaque and the awardee is designated as Lal Bahadur Shastri fellow.

EARLIER RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD
Smt. Sudha Murty, 2020
Dr. (Smt.) Manju Sharma, 2019
Shri Fali Sam Nariman, 2018
Shri Bindeshwar Pathak, 2017
Dr. Gopal Krishan Gandhi, 2016
Dr. Prannoy Roy, 2015
Dr. Apathukatha S. Pillai, 2014
Dr. R.A. Badwe, 2013
Smt. Tessy Thomas, 2012
late Prof. Yash Pal, 2011
Smt. Aruna Roy, 2010
Shri Sunil Bharti Mittal, 2009
Dr. E. Sreedharan, 2008
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, 2007
Dr. Naresh Trehan, 2006
late Dr. C.P. Srivastava, 2005
Smt. Ela Ramesh Bhatt, 2004
Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, 2003
Shri N.R. Narayana Murthy, 2002
Shri Sam Pitroda, 2001 and
late Prof. C.K. Prahlad, 2000

Nominations may be sent in confidence to the undersigned latest by March 31, 2021
Nomination form may be obtained from the Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Plot No. 11/7, Sector-11, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 or can be downloaded from Website: www.lbsim.ac.in
Tel.: 011-25307700 (100 Lines), Fax: 91-11-25307799, Email: director@lbsim.ac.in
Chairman, LBSIM, Delhi

ALMANAC TODAY
• Sunday: 24/01/2021 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Uttharayana
• Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Pausha • Paksha: Sukla • Tithi: Ekadashi 9.18 pm
• Nakshatra: Rohini 10.52 pm • Moon in Mituna Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
• Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 16°C | MAX 30°C
FORECAST
Clearing skies

Sunrise 6.46 am
Sunset 6.17 pm
Moonrise 2.28 pm
Moonset 2.45 am

WHERE THE PAST IS PRESENT

Belavadi village in Chikkamagaluru district takes you back in time

MEERA BHARDWAJ @ Chikkamagaluru

IT is an architectural marvel tucked away in Belavadi village in Chikkamagaluru district, just 10km from the world-famous temple of Halebid. The Veera Narayana Swami temple stands testimony to the Hoysala style of architecture. What is more interesting is the residents living around it make us turn the pages of history.

Although Belavadi village is beautiful in its own way, it does not see many visitors but attracts only art lovers interested in taking a look at the exquisite mantapas, decorated ceiling panels and roof, the bell-shaped pillars and the majestic elephant carvings.

Unlike other Hoysala temples in Karnataka, the Veera Narayana temple is surrounded by some 300-400 houses with some so closely situated to the temple that one can just jump into the temple complex. Venkatacheliah, 78, is one such resident whose quaint abode with its age-old walls and sloping roof has stone pots, bathing accessories and storage vessels. It is surprising how his wife and aunt have the same love for history and have provided all the support in retaining these structures from the olden days. His wife uses all these implements in her day-to-day household work without any complaints.

A typical Malnad style house with a big outer courtyard, **Venkatacheliah's** house has all the simple necessities of life that is needed for a family. In fact, the house shares a compound wall with the ancient temple.

He says with pride, "Most of our household accessories like grinding stones, grain and water storage vessels are 125-150 years old. The bath tank which was used for storing water has many a time served as a storage for cereals. I have maintained them with care."

Other family members add, "We have retained them as they were in the olden days and not replaced them with modern plastic containers or concrete structures. Even this house is more than a 100 years old while we have a very ancient well inside our compound. It may be older than the house."

Venkatacheliah says that Belavadi village once had about 400 families living around the ancient temple built in the 12th century. So, one can see many dwelling units that are situated around the temple but they are on lands granted by the Mysore Wadiyar Kings. It is said that land grants were made in appreciation of various kinds of works done by the local people for the temple. So, land was granted to priests, teachers, traditional artistes, musicians, farmers, masons and sweepers.

However, Venkatacheliah laments that out of the 400 families, only 25 are left as most of them have migrated to Bengaluru, Mumbai, European countries and the US. Even as he relates the history of Belavadi village and its temple, he says there are only a few houses that have retained their heritage and one such is his house.

For the residents of Belavadi village, it is a big dilemma as their houses fall in the Inam lands granted by the Mysore Kings to Sringeri Mutt. Living in very close proximity to the temple for generations, even their lives are intimately connected with the Veera Narayana temple which brings in devotees every day from nearby villages.

Residents say that authorities had even asked them to vacate their houses and lands as 100 metres of land was required around the temple to give it more protection. Since the temple is an ASI monument, no house owner has been allowed to take up renovation works around the temple. In view of this rule, Venkatacheliah says many houses abutting the Veera Narayana Temple have been untouched.

"We are helpless but it is necessary to protect such a glorious heritage. We want people to come and see this architectural masterpiece which is the largest Hoysala temple in the state."

Venkatacheliah says, "I will not mind leaving my house for Lord Veera Narayana but we need government support to start a new life away from Belavadi."

EPIC VILLAGE

Steeped in history, the scenic Belavadi village was once known as "Ekachakranagara", and this has found mention in the epic Mahabharata, local residents inform. A local festival is also celebrated every year in remembrance of the slaying of demon Bakasura by Pandava Prince Bhima

Malnad is home to many ancient structures. And many families have preserved houses that are 100 or 500 years old. Some families have been living in such houses for generations and this is part of Malnad culture. Some people have retained these heritage structures as a family heirloom

— M N SHADAKSHARI, Naturalist and heritage expert

(Clockwise from top), Veera Narayana temple, Venkatacheliah's house, and a stone vessel to store grain | MEERA BHARDWAJ

WHEEL POWER
THE JOY OF PEDALLING

K RATHNA @Mysuru

AFTER a gap of 37 years, Mysuru resident N Sudha Satish began cycling again. The 49-year-old had to give up her exercise of climbing the stairs to the top of Chamundi Hills due to the pandemic and two months ago, she began to cycle. "I started with small rounds and developed a passion. Cycling doesn't just keep you physically fit, it also helps your mental health. Pedalling and enjoying helps deal with stress," she says.

Now, she covers 200km a week, taking long trips to Chamundi Hills, Nanjangud, KR Nagar, Krishnaraja Reservoir, and surrounding areas.

Sudha isn't the only one to discover or rediscover the joy of pedalling furiously and enjoying the exertion. A trekker and mother of two, 45-year-old Veena Ashok has been cycling for the past two years, sometimes on her own, sometimes in a group. "I ride road bikes and MTB cycles. We start in the wee hours of the day and finish around 11 am. We take photographs and enjoy nature, which makes us energetic. Earlier, we barely saw people cycling. But post-Covid, many people have taken it up, especially on weekends," she says.

When Ekalavya awardee and co-founder of Cyclopedia Mysuru Lokesh Narasimhachar began promoting cycling in 2013, barely anyone was interested. "Now, people are more aware and the pandemic has only increased the desire to be fit. People buy cycles of all kinds, depending on what they can afford," Lokesh says.

The lockdown and the necessity to maintain physical distance due to Covid-19 has made many people switch from exercising in gyms or swimming pools, to cycling alone, or in groups. Parents too have bought cycles for their kids as physical activities have been limited by the pandemic.

Head constable at Chescom police station, V R Sheshadri, usually saw tourists biking around Mysuru during Dasara. "But after the outbreak, people in many localities have taken it up. The major advantage is that we can maintain physical distance. I used to swim earlier, but because pools are closed, I have started cycling with people I swam with. The children have named the group 'Swim Trek Exercise Cycle'," the 45-year-old cop says.

D S D Solanki, an adventure enthusiast who encourages women to take up cycling, says, "Due to work from home culture, some cycle to beat boredom and keep fit. We see people visit Chamundi Hills, Kunti Hills and other destinations. Cycles with gears are quite expensive. If Trin Trin introduces more cycles with gears, it would attract more people."

Demand for bicycles, especially those with gears, has gone up in Mysuru with shops reporting more customers. "Compared to the past, there has been a rise in sales. There is good demand for cycles, road bikes, mountain bikes and hybrid bikes," says Manoj C N, manager at Firefox Bike Station, Sharada Cycle and Watch Stores.

For P Mruthyunjaya, an employee at HDFC Bank, cycling is doing his bit for the environment. He rides his bike to work every day and believes more people should take it up to reduce pollution.

BIKERS' PARADISE

Mysuru has plenty of scenic spots: Krishnaraja Sagar Reservoir, Melukote, Kunti Betta, Chamundi Hill, Karighatta, Bettadapura Betta or peaks in neighbouring Kodagu district

Roads in central areas to be widened at a cost of ₹30cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IN a city that has been growing exponentially, traffic congestion has been Bengaluru's big minus in recent years. To tackle this, the State Government has now decided to expand major roads in the Central Business District (CBD) areas and streamline traffic at a cost of Rs 30 crore.

Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who was speaking at the launch of the Road Safety Awareness month on Saturday, said traffic management also means good roads, pedestrian-friendly footpaths and traffic discipline.

A positive traffic culture has to be imbibed in people and the state government will work towards this by not just ensuring good traffic management but also by incorporating sophisticated ways to monitor traffic violations, number plate identification, traffic signal management, camera-based traffic signals, etc, he said.

The Home Department has also sanctioned ₹100 crore for road safety, new traffic signal installation, safety of traffic police in other parts of Bengaluru and also other major cities in the state. Apart from this, ₹470 crore has been sanctioned to modify 12 high-density corridors in the state. The PWD is working in coordination with the NHAI towards preventing accidents on highways, he said.

Deputy CM Ashwath Narayan, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai and others inaugurate the Road Safety Week in Bengaluru on Saturday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

"We have sanctioned funds for major road safety-related issues, specially highways. To prevent accidents on the state's highways, we will be coming up with measures to remove black spots," he explained.

"The government aims to make Karnataka into a role model for being the best traffic-managed state. This year will be observed as 'Road Safety and Traffic Management Year'. We will plan and also implement all projects that have been planned towards road safety. It is not just this one month of creating awareness but the entire year should see easing of traffic in the state and also prevention of accidents." Bommai said.

Joint Commissioner of Police (traffic) B R Ravikanthe Gowda said, "We are observing Road Safety Month where we plan to spread awareness by holding special drives. Accidents are a major cause of deaths. We want to prevent that and it is everyone's responsibility that our roads are safe. This year's slogan is "Safe Roads, Save Lives".

SMART SCRAP

Education on the go: BBMP to turn buses into schools

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WITH the pandemic resulting in increasing number of school dropouts, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to conduct bridge courses to bring them back into schools. The civic agency will procure 10 buses from the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) to use them as mobile school buses.

Each bus is being procured at a cost of ₹4 lakh. The BMTC will modify the scrapped, unused buses before handing them over to BBMP. The buses will be equipped with a mat for children to sit, a white board and a chair for the attender. The BBMP will also provide food to these children.

Nagendra Nayak. Assistant Commissioner, Education, BBMP, told *The New Sunday Express*, "These buses are mobile school buses to prepare children to attend classes from the coming academic year."

He said, "Many children have dropped out and many others have not even been to a school. The mobile buses will act as a confidence-building space. Children will be made to adjust to a school-like atmosphere so that when they go back to school, they do not feel out of place and do not drop out. We will ensure that they catch up with their lessons so that they are able to cope with their peers."

The BBMP aims to start these services from February, after conducting a survey of identifying the children. It is preparing a report of locations where the number of such children is high, what they are occupied with like begging, hawking and labour sites. Construction sites where most of them are housed with their families are also being listed. The BBMP is also discussing the details with the High Court-formed committees and judges before taking a final decision.

While some have lauded the BBMP's efforts, others have criticised and said that teaching children in a closed environment, inside a bus, will not be a safe and healthy practice. Activists said that classes are not being held because children should not be allowed to sit in close proximity indoors with others in this pandemic. But the BBMP is doing the same, only making them more vulnerable, they said.

EXPRESS READ

BBMP demolishes unauthorised temple

BENGALURU: Following the recent directions of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad, the Palike razed an unauthorised temple on Swami Vivekananda Road. According to BBMP officials, the value of the property is around Rs 50 crore. Now, the land will be used for constructing a bus stand to decongest the KR Puram flyover stretch. **ENS**

75% attendance not must for II PUC exam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Department of Pre University Education has decided to relax mandatory class attendance rules for second year PU students appearing for the examinations this year.

The decision was taken considering the fact that many students could not attend classes during the lockdown period. Also, even if II PU colleges have reopened, there are many who are still not attending the classes offline, fearing contracting the virus, hence the board has taken a decision to relax the rules for this academic year.

As per the Karnataka Education Act 2006, to be eligible to appear for the final examination for PUC, undergraduate, postgraduate and diploma course, students must have 75 percent attendance, failing which, they must readmit to the course the next academic year.

Every year, scores of II PU students make a beeline to convince PU officials to grant them permission to write the exams despite shortage of attendance.

CLASS 10 BOARD EXAMS IN JUNE FIRST WEEK

Bagalkot: Education Minister Suresh Kumar said it has been decided to conduct board exams for Classes 10 and 12 in the first week of June and end of May respectively. The syllabus has been cut down by 30 per cent. Meanwhile, there is a demand in rural areas to start regular classes for Standard 8, 9 and 11. The decision will be taken after convening a meeting with stakeholders.

Three male passengers who arrived from Dubai were arrested at Kempegowda International Airport by the Air Intelligence Unit of Customs on Saturday. One passenger had 7,400 cigarette sticks, another 9,140 sticks. Under Customs rules, one passenger can bring a maximum of 100 sticks

STATE TO ROLL OUT PH 2 OF VACCINATION FROM FEB 15

Action plan in place, details of execution being worked out

CHETANA BELAGERE @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA is gearing up for the second phase of the vaccination, set to begin from February 15. Its target is about 2 crore people. Those above 50 and people with comorbidities will be the beneficiaries.

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar told TNIE, "The State is doing well in its first phase and is making arrangements for the second phase of the vaccination."

The state health department officials said they were preparing a detailed action plan. "We have most of the data in place and a detailed plan on how to execute it is being prepared. The first phase of our vaccine drive is going smoothly and has been appreciated by the Union Health Ministry too. We have done well in terms of Covid management, and now vaccine management for the first phase too," said a senior official from the health department.

"It is time for the healthcare workers to get their second dose of vaccine by February 13.

A health worker carries boxes of vaccines out of Dasappa Hospital | SHRIRAM BN

Hence, the plan is to complete the first phase and commence the second phase of the drive after that," the official said.

The minister said, "The state had done two door-to-door surveys across the state during the Covid times and we already have the data which is an advantage for us. This will help us to register the beneficiaries at a faster pace."

However, Dr Giridhara Babu, senior epidemiologist and adviser to Covid Advisory Committee said, "Two rounds of survey data and the list of people screened for this category is with the state's war room. They will now have to review it and update it if necessary."

But the challenge will be to bulk upload the data and ensure the smooth working of the CoWIN app. The Central government has been working on the glitches. According to sources, if the snags continue, the Centre might go in for an offline mode.

JAB FOR THE WARRIOR

I took the jab on Saturday and it went well. I had anxiety and apprehension before taking it, but I took it to set an example. Post vaccination, I had mild pain at the injection site, which is usually there even when a tetanus shot is taken. I was asked not to rub the spot as it would create warmth and blood supply to the area which could cause a reaction. Like how we didn't know how Covid behaves with people, we don't know how the vaccine will react either. But so far, it has been completely safe. At Pristine Hospital, in the second round, out of 100, 40 took vaccination. In the first round only 17 took the shot. There has been a slight improvement. Only a few doctors had side-effects like myalgia (muscle pain) but it was mild

Dr Prasanna HM, President, Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes Association (PHANA), Managing Director of Pristine Hospital

I took the vaccine injection at St John's Medical College. It was virtually painless, and I feel fine. With the decline in the number of Covid patients, the hospital has now turned its attention to the vaccination drive. We have 9 vaccination centres with the capacity to vaccinate 900 beneficiaries every day. So far, we have administered the vaccine to 2,130 health workers. I am very happy that our health workers who were the frontline warriors in the war against the Covid menace, now have the opportunity to take the vaccine and protect themselves and their dear and near ones from the Covid threat. We have been urging all our doctors, nurses, support staff and students to take the vaccine at the earliest. Taking the vaccine, I believe, is a personal duty and a social obligation. A personal duty because each one has the responsibility to take measures to protect oneself from ill health. A social obligation because if we fail to protect ourselves, we pose a threat to society by being potential carriers of the virus. Sadly, stories are being spread casting doubts about the efficacy of the vaccine and creating apprehensions about its after-effects. I would urge all citizens to ignore such baseless contentions and come forward to take the vaccine. Let us all join the fight against the pandemic and defeat it before it does more harm to us and our society.

Rev. Dr. Paul Parathazham, Director of St. John's Medical College Hospital.

Impact of Covid can be serious for liver patients

THE Covid-19 infection has taken the world by a storm and till date, over a million deaths have been attributed to the coronavirus. SARS-Covid-2 affects almost all the parts of the body and liver is no exception. The largest gland in the body, the liver is responsible for most of the vital functions, including detoxification. There is now significant evidence to prove that the virus impacts the liver and more than half the patients with liver infection report some degree of change in liver enzymes.

DR SONAL ASTHANA
Lead Consultant, Hepatobilliary and Transplant Surgery, Aster Integrated Liver Care, Aster CMI Hospital, Bengaluru

The virus sometimes directly impacts the liver because of Ace 2 receptor that is normally used by the virus to enter the body. The receptor is found in both liver cells and blood vessels.

The liver is also impacted by the cytokine storm which causes a substantial damage. Drugs used to treat SARS-Covid infection, ICU care and ventilation too may affect the liver.

The post-Covid infection has a more severe effect on patients who are above 65 years of age and suffering from obesity, long-standing severe diseases of the liver, kidneys, heart, and lungs.

Liver enzymes shoot up and then revert to normal after the disease runs its course among patients with acute Covid. The infection causes a decrease in the protein and, in some cases, also reduces the building of protein in the body, which is called as ascites.

Patients with cirrhosis have a dual problem. Individuals with damaged livers are likely to present with decompensation or worsening of liver disease after an infection. This may include symptoms like jaundice, fluid accumulation in the belly and confused state of mind.

A number of previously stable patients may deteriorate to the point of requiring a liver transplant, while others with no history of liver diseases may develop mild to moderate liver injury which is proportional to the severity of the Covid disease.

The best way liver patients can prevent complications is by avoiding exposure to the SARS virus.

Patients with chronic liver disease should limit contact with people and healthcare workers and avoid hospital visits by making use of telemedicine. Best supportive care along with Vitamin D may decrease the severity of Covid illness and need for ICU care.

Covid vaccination is recommended for all patients with pre-existing liver disease as well as those who have had a transplant in the past.

56 pc health workers vaccinated in Phase 1

Bengaluru: Over 1,84,154 health and frontline workers, or 56% of the target, have been inoculated across Karnataka. On Saturday, Covid vaccination was administered only at 107 session sites in Bengaluru Urban district. Although the targeted beneficiaries were 10,065, only 3,669 people (36%) were given the jab. Vaccination was not done in any other district because the Health Department is reconciling data from the past eight days and updating it, health officials said.

Do not waste vials, says BBMP commissioner

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

MANY people who registered for the vaccine did not turn up for their scheduled jab, leading to wastage of vaccine vials in BBMP limits.

One vial of Covishield contains 10 doses and once opened, a vial must be used within four hours, failing which, it must be discarded. BBMP records show that 280 partially used vials were returned and 12 vials were wasted. As on January 22, 33,797 people have been vaccinated in Bengaluru and 1,83,567 in Karnataka.

"Due to poor response, it has been decided that vaccinators can call more beneficiaries and ask them to take the shots if the targeted number of people do not show up," BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad said on Saturday, while interacting with nodal officers in charge of Covid vaccination.

He said that those who did not turn up for vaccination are now showing interest. He directed vaccinators to record details of each vial and hand over all the used, partially used, unused and wasted bottles to corporation officials at the end of the day.

"To ensure that all those who are listed get vaccinated, hospitals can get together and finalise a centre with the help of BBMP zonal commissioners, so that people benefit and vials are not wasted," he said.

He asked the heads of hospitals and medical centres to send lists of beneficiaries who have been left out and new beneficiaries who have come forward to get vaccinated.

"If hospitals have more beneficiaries, more centres will be set up as the target for the coming week is set at 75,000," he added.

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After laying the foundation stone for the ₹500-crore Anubhava Mantapa in Basavakalyan, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa announced to restore and develop all places of Shivasharanas in the state with public co-operation

Permission given only for stone crushing, not quarrying unit: CM

'Extent of sale of explosives, their use must be investigated; None will be spared'

After the massive blast on Thursday, Congress workers hold a protest at Shivamogga on Saturday | SHIMOGA NANDAN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

THE extent of sale of explosives and their use have to be investigated in connection with the mega-explosion at Hunasodu village of Shivamogga taluk on Thursday night, said Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa during his visit to the blast site on Saturday.

A clear picture will emerge after a thorough investigation into the incident as no one except those who died were at the spot when the blast occurred between 10.25 and 10.30 pm, he said.

The toll in the blast went up to six on Saturday. Though the district administration had said on Friday that five labourers were dead, the chief minister clarified that the toll was six.

An expert team on explosives from Hyderabad visited the spot and returned after collecting samples on Friday. Sources said the team found ammonium nitrate gel, gelatin sticks and live detonators at the site and took them to Hyderabad for further examination. The initial assessment is that over 1,300 kg of explosives went off on Thursday night.

Though initially it was said that three people, including the landowner and two sublease holders, had been detained, sources on Saturday said that only two sublease owners had been taken in.

A team of district administration and police department officials, led by Deputy Commissioner K B Sivakumar, too has launched a probe into the incident.

"It is not right to speak about the blast when the investigation is underway as it may affect the probe. There will be clarity only when the investigation is over," the chief minister said.

Whoever is behind the incident will not be spared and stringent action will be taken against them. A monetary compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the families of each of the deceased has already announced, he said.

The permission had been given only for a stone-crushing and not stone-quarrying unit at the village, he clarified. "As the area comes under the eco-sensitive zone, there has been a request to reconsider the permission given. The government will review it," he added.

Siddu seeks stringent action against illegal mining

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE chief minister's statement triggered a storm with Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Siddaramaiah, accusing him of backing illegal mining activities and violating the rules of the Mines and Geology Department.

The former CM asked, "What is the punishment for operating illegal mines when the CM himself is saying they can get a licence? How can the CM say that? It is not an unauthorised house to be regularised. Why should we have a set of laws in the Mines and Geology department?" He also demanded stringent action against illegal mining.

Rushing to the CM's defence, Minister Bommai said illegal mines will not be regularised and that the deputy commissioners have been told to keep a strict vigil on sand, stone and other mining activities.

Promising that the government will act tough on illegal mining, while asking licensed miners to comply with all norms, the minister insisted that the CM too had stated that stringent action will be taken against those involved in illegal mining.

SUNDAY INTERVIEW

'CENTRE MUST REPEAL FARM LAWS, NOT TAKE IT AS A PRESTIGE ISSUE'

RAMU PATIL @Bengaluru

As the stalemate between the Centre and farmers protesting against farm laws continues, Congress Working Committee and Rajya Sabha member Mallikarjuna Kharge said the Central Government should correct its mistakes by repealing the Acts and not make it a prestige issue. The veteran Congress leader, in conversation with *The New Sunday Express*, also spoke about the state of the country's economy and ideological battles between the Grand Old Party and BJP. Excerpts.

Is Congress doing enough to support farmers' stir?
Congress has always been fighting for farmers' interests. Rahul Gandhi and others took part in a massive tractor rally. Apart from extending full support to the agitation, we will also put pressure on the government both within and outside Parliament to repeal the Acts. We had fought against these laws earlier too and eight members, including three from Congress, were suspended in Parliament. The CWC discussed the issue on Friday.

Is the Centre doing enough to end the stir?
Farmers have been protesting for the last 60 days, but the Prime Minister has taken it as a prestige issue. The government considers it as a setback and an insult to repeal the Acts. They are offering to keep these laws in abeyance for sometime, so that they gain time to break unity among farmers. They have held several rounds of meetings and tested the patience of farmers. But the protesters are united and are not willing to budge till the Acts are repealed. The government did not allow a detailed discussion in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The three Acts are detrimental to farmers and to common people. Private firms with deep pockets will control the entire farm sector and people will suffer.

The government has clarified that the MSP will continue...
They may continue with MSP, but what is important is how much they will procure. They have only issued statements that they will continue with MSP, but the Acts don't mention it. Let them clearly state in the Acts the minimum quantity they will procure under MSP. There is no provision in the Act to ensure that companies do not purchase farmers' produce below MSP. The APMC market is the base for fixing the price and it helps farmers to know the price at different places. The government gives the example of Bihar, but farmers there are suffering and selling their paddy and wheat in Punjab. APMC does not control the market, but provides a platform to support farmers. But the government does not understand this.

How to end the stalemate?
In the interest of the country, farmers, poor people, consumers and everyone, what is the harm in repealing the Acts?

Won't it be a bad precedent to repeal the Acts?
No. You should have thought about the repercussions before taking the decision and held discussions with farmers, experts, NGOs and the stakeholders. The government should have also allowed a detailed discussion in Parliament. If it had followed the parliamentary procedure of going through the Standing Committee and Consultative committee, this problem would not have arisen. When you have committed a mistake, you have to repent.

Look at WhatsApp messages on Balakot strike. If this is how issues of national security are handled, it is difficult for the country
Mallikarjuna Kharge, Congress Working Committe member

As a member of the Congress high-powered committee on economic affairs, what are your views on the economy?
We will talk about it in detail in Delhi on January 28 and will also take it up in Parliament. The economic situation is grim, but the government is not taking the advice of any experts, even their own. Many advisors have left the government as they don't want to listen to anyone. The situation is getting worse by the day. Inflation is going up, petrol prices are increasing and the share of non-performing assets (NPAs) has increased from 7.5 per cent two years ago to nearly 16 per cent now. They have not managed it well on any front.

The BJP is getting stronger at the Centre and in states. What is the future of Congress?
We are fighting an ideological battle, while they are polarising voters. They bring religion to every aspect and raise emotional issues without focusing on welfare measures or the economy. Even while collecting donations for the Ram Temple, they are trying to polarise voters. It is a form of dictatorship that is in play now, and not democracy. If you oppose them, they will brand you as anti-national.

Will Rahul Gandhi come back as Congress president after the party elections?
Mrs (Sonia) Gandhi will fix the date for (internal) elections after the Assembly polls in five states. For the country's unity and to protect our institutions, we need a strong national party.

Can't attend Kisan Sansad in Delhi: Gowda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FORMER Prime Minister and JDS supremo H D Deve Gowda on Saturday said that he will not be able to attend a Kisan Sansad (farmer meetings) being held in New Delhi on Saturday and Sunday, due to medical reasons.

Though he was invited for the meet, Gowda in a letter to senior Supreme Court advocate Prashant Bhushan who is holding the Sansad said, "It was my desire to take part in the gathering of farmers at Delhi. Due to medical reason, I cannot travel to Delhi. I was born as a poor farmer's son and have never let down farming communities in my political life. In my experience, a government that takes on farmers will find it difficult to function."

Taking objection to the three farm laws passed by the Union Government against which farmers are protesting in New Delhi, Gowda said that the Centre should treat farmers with dignity.

He said that the farm laws are not acceptable as they were passed without consultation or discussion in the House. Gowda also pointed out that he spoke against the bills in the Upper House in September 2020, which was disrupted within five minutes of convening. In his speech, he mentioned about farmer suicides and the need to find a permanent solution, he added.

EXPRESS READ

Eshwarappa bats for two-tier panchayat system

Dharwad: Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister K S Eshwrappa batted for a two-tier Panchayat Raj system instead of the existing three-tier one. He has said that the issue would be discussed in the state cabinet. He said it would be appropriate to implement a two-tier panchayat raj system and that it was his personal opinion. However, he added that the matter would be discussed in the cabinet meeting and a proposal could be sent to the Central government. "Since the Constitution insists on implementing a three-tier system, it is being followed, he added.

Congress shortlists three names for Belgaum Lok Sabha bypoll

Belagavi: Ahead of the bypoll for the Belgaum Lok Sabha seat, the Congress has selected three probable candidates after several rounds of meetings by a KPCC committee, headed by former minister M B Patil. However, the party top leadership is unlikely to announce its consensus candidate until the BJP finalises its candidate. Satish Jarkiholi figures in the list of three probables, but he said in Belagavi on Saturday that he was not aware of the other two candidates. "Their names will be announced a day after the EC declares the bypoll schedule," he added.

PARAKRAM DIWAS

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and Minister S T Somashekar pay tributes to freedom fighter Subhash Chandra Bose on his birth anniversary, in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

Congress leaders slam govt, back Sowmya Reddy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A day after an FIR was filed against Congress MLA Sowmya Ramalinga Reddy, party leaders and workers on Saturday came out in support of her. State party unit president D K Shivakumar and Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah have slammed the State government and the Home Department for filing a case against Sowmya.

The FIR was registered against Sowmya for allegedly assaulting a woman police constable who was on duty during the Congress protest in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters, Shivakumar said she (Sowmya) was trying to defend herself when the police were trying to pull her. "We have seen how police treated all our women leaders. We were cooperating, in spite of that, police assaulted our legislators and workers. This was pre-planned," he alleged.

He said one should watch the complete video and decide. "If you (police) arrest Sowmya, we will stand with her. We also have evidence, I have seen her falling down. Government is responsible for this incident. It is her (Soumya) right to defend herself against such atrocity," he said.

Pointing to RR Nagar bypolls, where a case was filed against Congress candidate Kusuma under poll violation, Shivakumar asked why cases were always filed against women. "Why no case was registered against me or Siddaramaiah," he asked.

Siddaramaiah said, "Sowmya too filed a complaint, what happened to it? Why is action not taken based on her complaint?"

Meanwhile, Youth Congress members staged a protest in front of the Gandhi statue at Race Course Road.

We have seen how police treated all our women leaders. We were cooperating, in spite of that, police assaulted our legislators and workers
DK Shivakumar, KPCC president

Congress workers come together in support of MLA Sowmya Reddy and slam the state government during a protest in Bengaluru on Saturday | MEGHANA SASTRY

WOOING UPSET MLAs?

Resort politics? Jarkiholi-led meeting sparks speculation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Shivamogga

WHEN Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi held a 'hush-hush' meeting with some ministers and an MLA at a resort in Chikkamagaluru on Friday night, it fuelled speculation about resort politics.

The meeting, coming after a few legislators and ministers reportedly expressed displeasure after the expansion of the cabinet, allocation and reallocation of portfolios, has raised eyebrows. Though ostensibly held to discuss development projects, the meeting became a talking point.

Given the role played by Jarkiholi in toppling the coalition government to bring the BJP to power, the resort meeting assumed significance. Newly-inducted Minor Irrigation Minister C P Yogeshwar, Excise Minister K Gopaliah, and Mudigere MLA MP Kumaraswamy, who was expecting a berth, were present.

Spiking the speculation that they discussed political issues, Jarkiholi said they had focused on irrigation projects pertaining to Chikkamagaluru and Hassan districts, and development projects including Yettinahole.

"We visited Yettinahole project area in Sakleshpur taluk on Friday. We talked about speeding up the project and ensuring water supply by June. The next morning we held a meeting with officials of the department," he said.

When asked about top officials of the district claiming no knowledge of the visit, he said only his department officials were informed of it. "You can wait for the officials to come out of the resort and verify my claim," Jarkiholi said.

Asked why the official meeting was held at a private resort, he said, "Serai Resort was owned by the son-in-law of S M Krishna who is my political guru. The resort owner, late Siddhartha, was my good friend. I have visited the resort many times over the years."

Jarkiholi said Yogeshwar left for Belur after the meet.

Kumaraswamy echoed Jarkiholi and said political issues were not discussed. Asked about not getting a berth, he said the matter is irrelevant now.

Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi's 'secret' meeting with some ministers raised speculation | EXPRESS

Serai Resort was owned by the son-in-law of S M Krishna who is my political guru. The resort owner, late Siddhartha, was my good friend. I have visited the resort many times over the years
Ramesh Jarkiholi, Water Resources Minister

The Department of Pre University Education has decided to relax mandatory class attendance rules for second-year PU students appearing for the examinations this year

Leopard sighted at N Begur on B'luru outskirts

Residents told to move in groups; Forest dept teams stationed in area to keep vigil

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE residents of south Bengaluru were in for a pleasant surprise when the news of a leopard wandering in the vicinity woke them up on Saturday morning. The video of a leopard crossing the road near an apartment complex in N Begur, Koppa, caught on CCTV camera went viral, adding to the panic and excitement among residents.

As per the footage, verified by the forest department, the leopard was caught on camera around 5.30 am and this is the first time that a leopard has been sighted in this part of the city.

The pug mark of the leopard

Forest department and police officials rushed to the spot to search for the big cat. Till late evening, there was no sighting, but for the pug mark. Some teams have been stationed in the area.

Forest officials appealed to the citizens not to venture out after sunset and not to leave senior citizens and children unattended outdoors. They also urged people to move out only if necessary and in groups, with torches. "There is no forest in the vicinity, but there is 50-60 acres of green unattended space. The area where the leopard was sighted is surrounded by thick bushes and has a water body. No death of any stray dog or other animal has been reported. It could be a stray incident of a leopard crossing and getting caught on camera," said a forest official.

S S Ravishankar, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban, said that citizens need not panic. "All necessary measures are being taken. There are leopards on the outskirts of Bengaluru and they are usually shy," he said.

6 held for selling FDA question paper; exam postponed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CITY Crime Branch (CCB) sleuths on Saturday busted a question paper racket and arrested a gang of six people, who were involved in selling question papers for the First Division Assistant (FDA) exam.

The competitive exam, organised by the Karnataka Public Service Commission, scheduled for Sunday, has been postponed.

A senior CCB police officer said that following a tipoff, a special team raided a property in Ullal under Jnanabharati police limits and caught Chandru and Rajappa red-handed along with four others.

Chandru Rajappa

The police also recovered question papers, Rs 24 lakh in cash and three stolen vehicles from them.

The gang was using the stolen vehicles to circulate the questions papers to job aspirants who had approached them a few days ago and paid money in advance. All of them were taken into custody and were being questioned to track down their network, while the KPSC too was alerted, the officer said.

The CCB officials are trying to ascertain whether the arrested have any links to Shivakumar, the kingpin of PU question paper leak.

KPSC Secretary G Satyavathi postponed the exam and said the new date will be announced soon. As many as 3.74 lakh aspirants are appearing for the exams.

BACK TO CANVAS

Students of Chitrakala Parishath at a painting class on their campus as the college reopened after several months of closure due to the pandemic | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Upset over harassment, woman ends life

Bengaluru: A 38-year-old woman committed suicide in Nelamangala on Saturday, reportedly upset over continued harassment by her husband. A senior police officer said that Vidya was married to Umesh, an employee at a private company, and they stayed at Dobbspet. In her suicide note, Vidya alleged that Umesh used to suspect her fidelity and abuse her regularly. A case of abetment of suicide has been filed against Umesh and has been arrested. ENS

CASE FILED AGAINST MAKERS OF 'TANDAV'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A social activist has filed a case against the makers of controversial OTT series 'Tandav' for "hurting religious sentiments of Hindus".

The complainant, Kiran Aradya, filed the complaint with the KR Puram police on Friday against director Ali Abbas Zafar, producer Farhan Akthar, actors Mohammed Zeeshan and Saif Ali Khan as well as creative head of Amazon Prime, Aparna Purohit.

Demanding action, Kiran alleged that the series shows a Hindu God using abusive words that was done intentionally to insult and hurt Hindu sentiments.

A senior police officer said that the case was filed under IPC sections 295 A — destruction, damage, or defilement of a place of worship or an object held sacred, with an intent to insult the religion of a class of persons, 298 — words with deliberate intent to wound the religious feelings of any person, 153(A) — promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence and language and 34 — acts done by several persons with common intention.

"We will take the opinion of legal experts before taking action. However, we came to know that the controversial scenes have already been removed by the team as complaints were lodged against them across the country," police said.

4 nabbed for killing police informant

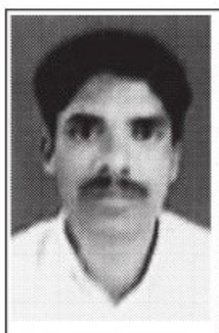
BENGALURU: Rajgopalnagar police on Friday arrested a gang of four who allegedly killed a police informant, Srinivas alias Kari Seena. The accused were hiding in Tamil Nadu after killing Seena on January 9. The prime accused is still at large, the police said.

The arrested, Abhishek, (23), Raghuvaran, (28), Praveen, (21) and Manoj Kumar, (28), are residents of Kasturinagar in Laggere.

A senior police officer said the gang attacked Seena at a construction site in Laggere and fled to Tamil Nadu where they committed a series of robberies.

Based on a tipoff, the TN police arrested the four, who confessed to the murder of Seena over an old rivalry. ENS

LOOK OUT NOTICE



The person in the above photograph, Puthran, Age - 38, S/o Cheenimuthu, Theerthamalakudy, Kanthalloor is the accused of the Crime registered in Marayoor Police Station (Cr. No. 122/19 u/s 302 IPC). After committing a brutal murder he was absconded from Marayoor. If you get any information about this person, kindly inform in the below mentioned phone numbers. Inspector of Police, Marayoor Police Station - **9497947172**. Police Station, Marayoor - **04865 252210**. Sub Inspector, Marayoor Police Station - **9497980377**.

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Assistant Accounts Officer (Contractual)	01-UR
System Administrator (Contractual)	01-UR
Clerk-cum-Typist (Contractual)	02 (UR) 01 [DT(A), NT(B), NT(C), NT(D)] Mah. 01 OBC (Mah.)
Cook (Contractual)	01-(UR)

Those Candidates who have applied against RN-10/January 13, 2020 need not to apply afresh. Preference would be given to the candidates having experience at Educational Institutions. Duly filled-in applications must reach the University **on or before February 15, 2021 (Monday) till 4:00 p.m.** For further details, i.e., minimum qualifications, experience and application form please visit University website <**www.nlunagpur.ac.in**>

Sd/-
Registrar

FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
DEHRA DUN - 248195
(Under Sec 3 of the UGC Act 1956)
(vide Notification No.F.9-25/89-U.3 dated 6-12-1991)

ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT-2021
Remote Proctored M.Sc. Online Examination -2021

I. MASTER OF SCIENCE COURSES

Opening date of downloading the application form from : **25th Jan., 2021**
Last date of submission of complete Application form : **16th April,2021**
Date of Online Remote Proctored Admission test : **16th May,2021**
The dates may be changed at the discretion of the university authorities.

a) M.Sc. Forestry (38 Seats): Eligibility : B.Sc. with at least one of the subjects namely Botany, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Physics, Zoology or B.Sc. degree in Agriculture or Forestry.

b) M.Sc. Wood Science & Technology (38 Seats): Eligibility : B.Sc. with Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics (PCM) or B.Sc. degree in Forestry.

c) M.Sc. Environment Management (38 Seats) : Eligibility : B.Sc. degree in any branch of basic or applied Sciences or B.Sc. Degree in Forestry or Agriculture or BE/B. Tech in Environment Science.

d) M.Sc. Cellulose & Paper Technology (20 Seats) : Eligibility : B.Sc. with Chemistry as one of the subjects or BE/B.Tech. (Chemical or Mechanical Engineering). The 2nd year of this course is likely to be conducted at Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute (CPPRI), Saharanpur.

II. PERCENTAGE OF MARKS (in the qualifying examination) : For (a) (b) (c) & (d) Candidates having 50% or above marks in general & OBC category and 45% marks for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes may apply.

III. RESERVATION : Out of the above, following seats are reserved for: (a) **SC & ST** : 15% and 7.5% respectively (b) **Reservation to OBC** : will be provided as per the policy of GOI (c) **Physically Handicapped** : 3% reservation to the Persons with Disabilities under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 Chapter No. 39, in **M.Sc. Forestry & M.Sc. Environment Management Courses**, for the candidates with locomotor disabilities one leg, one arms (without mobility restriction) and persons with partial deafness. The candidates will have to produce disability certificate issued by competent authority at the time of counseling for admission. (d) **ICFRE Employee** : 5 seats (supernumerary).

IV. HOW TO APPLY : Candidates can download the application form from the FRI Deemed to be University website **www.fridu.edu.in** and send the duly filled application form alongwith a Bank Draft for Rs. 1500/- **(Rupees One thousand five hundred only)** in favour of Registrar, FRI Deemed to be University payable at Dehradun **and send it to the Registrar, FRI Deemed to be University, P.O. IPE Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun-248 195**. For more details please refer to Information Bulletin-2021 available on University website **www.fridu.edu.in** A candidate who want to apply for two or more courses has to fillup separate form for each course with prescribed fee @ Rs. 1500/-). For any assistance feel free to contact.

Dr. A.K. Tripathi
REGISTRAR
FRI DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
Ph. No. 0135-2751826/2224439/2224495

SHUBHA SWEEKARA

T.R.NAGAPRAKASH
today (24.01.2021) at his residence, Ramamurthy Nagar, 080-25653445

Bereaved by:
Sumitra, Srinidhi Family, Friends and Relatives

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is notify to the General Public that, my client **Sri K. NAGARAJ**, S/o Late Krishnappa, residing at No.465, 4th Cross, J.N.Tata Nagar, Bengaluru-560 094 has entered into agreement of sale for the purchase of the **Schedule Property**, more fully described herein below, from **Sri.Nagaraj.D.P**, S/o Late Doddappaiah, residing at Dibburahalli, SidlaghattaTaluk, Chikkabalapura-562105 and **Sri Shankara Chari**, S/o Late Venkatanarayanappa, residing at No.4042, ward-3, C.S.I Road, K.S.R.T.C. Division Office, VTC, Chikkabalapura-562101. If anybody having any claim or objection what–so-ever may lodge their objections with the under signed, with documentary proofs within 15 days from the date of this notice. Failing which please note, my client will proceed with the sale transaction in respect of the schedule property by presuming their no claim are what-so-ever from anybody in any angle exists.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable land **measuring and extent of 0.14 guntas out of 2 acre 29 guntasbearing Survey No.258/1**, situated at Bettahalasuru Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, bounded with **East by:** Remaining portion of same survey No.258/1; **West by:** Remaining portion of same survey No.258/1; **North by:** Land bearing Survey No.343; **South by:** Rajanakunte Road;

RAVI.S, Advocate,
RAVI LAW ASSOCAITES
No. 15/1, 3rd Cross, Sampige Road, Mallesgwaran, BENGALURU- 560 003,
PH: 9448079859/7829956999
Date: 23.01.2021

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGES AT BANGALORE (CCH-18)
P & SC. No. 524/ 2020

Sri Prakash S/o Late Narayana Nair .K, No. 317, 'Sri Durga Niwas Vaderahalli, Vidyaranyanapura, Bangalore-97.

2. Smt. Leela .N, W/o Late Narayana Nair .K, No. 317, 'Sri Durga Niwas Vaderahalli, Vidyaranyanapura, Bangalore-97. ... **Petitioner**

Respondent ... Nil

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above names has made petition to this court under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act for the insuance of Succession Certificate in respect of the credit entitled him to receive describe in the scheduled hereunder held by late Sri Narayana Nair K. who died on 13/8/2019 who is the father of the petitioner, interested parties are hereby to appear before Hon'ble City Civil & Secession Judge (CCH-18) Bengaluru, in person or with a pleader duly instructed on 26-02-2021 at 11 AM in the forenoon to show cause against the petition failing which matter will be heard and determined as Ex-parte.

SCHEDULE

All that part and parcel of State Bank of India, Jalahalli Branch, in name of the account holder Sri Narayana Nair K. SB account No. 10838682420 Rs. 1,14,672/- (One lakh fourteen thousand six hundred seventy two only) it the name of petitioner's father.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on 20-01-2021.

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Address for service: 147, Raghuramlayout, Ramachandrapura, Jalahalli post, Bengaluru -560013.

J.S.V.V. SAMSTHE's
D.G.M. AYURVEDIC MEDICAL COLLEGE, HOSPITAL, POST GRADUATE STUDIES & RESEARCH CENTRE,
Dr. S.V. Savadi Road, Shivananda Nagar, GADAG-582103.
(Affiliated to RGUHS, Bengaluru, Recognised by GOK/ CCIM/GOI Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi)

Admission to MD (Ayu) Courses
(Under Management Quota)

Applications are invited for Post Graduation courses of 3 years in Kaya Chikitsa, Panchakarma, Dravya Guna, and Rasa Shastra & BK for the academic year 2020-21 at our College under Management quota from the candidates who are eligible in AIAPGET 2020.

Applications may be obtained from the College office during working hours.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL
Mobile : 9448185885

Bank of Baroda
(A Government of India undertaking)
Overseas Branch, Bengaluru
E-mail: vjoban@bankofbaroda.com
Ph : 080-25327031/25598716

Possession Notice

APPENDIX IV under Act- Rule 8(1)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Bank Of Baroda, Overseas Branch, Bangalore under the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule-3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 14.08.2020 calling upon the **1) M/s Omkara Business Corporation, Corporate Office:** No.40/1, 3rd Cross, 2nd H Main Road, 11th Block, BDA layout, 2nd Stage, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore-560072. **Manufacturing Plant address:** No.69/B.69/C.No18/9, Vasanthanarsapura industrial area, Nagenahalli, Kora Hobli, Tumkur District and Taluk-572104. **Represented by its Partners 1) Mr. Siddhartha Patil S/o Mr. Saran Patil** Residing at No. 166, 12th Main Road, 10th Cross, D Group Layout, Bangalore-560091 **Also Resides at Mr. Siddhartha Patil S/o Mr. Saran Patil** Residing at No.166/A, 10th Main Road, 10th cross, D Group Layout, Bangalore-560091. **2) Smt. Lakshmi Upanal** D/o Sri. Prakash Upanal, Residing at No. 40/1, 3rd Cross, 2nd 'H' Main Road, 2nd Stage, BDA Layout, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru-560072. **3) Mr. Deepak Agarwal** S/o Sri. Shankara Residing at No. 36, 4th Cross, Incometax Layout, 2nd Stage, Bharath Nagar, Bangalore-560091 **(Borrowers). 4) Mr. Siddhartha Patil S/o Saran Patil,** Residing at No. 166, 12th Main Road, 10th Cross, D Group Layout, Bangalore-560091. **5) Smt. Lakshmi Upanal** D/o Sri. Prakash Upanal, Residing at No. 40/1, 3rd Cross, 2nd 'H' Main Road, 2nd Stage, BDA Layout, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru-560072. **3) Mr. Deepak Agarwal** S/o Sri. Shankara Residing at No. 36, 4th Cross, Incometax Layout, 2nd Stage, Bharath Nagar, Bangalore-560091 **(Guarantors)** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being under of **Rs 26,28,14,214.99** (Rupees Twenty Six Crores Twenty Eight Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Fourteen and Paise Ninety Nine only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor of the property having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/Guarantor/ Owner of the property in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the **21ST day of January of the year 2021.**

The borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of Baroda** for an amount of **Rs 26,28,14,214.99** (Rupees Twenty Six Crores Twenty Eight Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Fourteen and Paise Ninety Nine only) as per the notice issued on 14th August 2020 plus interest thereon along with cost.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MOVABLE/IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

CCH: Hypothecation of Stock with 25% margin and Assignment of Book-Debts (not older than 90 days) with 40% margin.
BG: 25% Cash Margin
LC: 25% cash Margin along with hypothecation of underlying assets to be purchased out of LC.

Property No 1: All the piece and parcel of Converted Land comprised in Sy No. 11/2, Gundenahalli Village, Bangalore Rural district, Nelamanagala Taluk, Sompura Hobli, Bangalore measuring 1 Acre 15 Guntas vide conversion order No. ALN.(NS) S. R.71/2015-16 dated 30.05.2016 order issued by the special deputy commissioner, Bangalore rural district, Bangalore and bounded on :East By: Survey No.10, West By: Border and Road(Aaladahali Road),North By: Survey No.11/1 and Road, South By: Government Land

Property No 2: All that piece and parcel of Land and Building situated at Plot No. 69-B and 69-C in Sy No.(S) 18 Part and 19 Part in the Industrial Area developed by Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board(KIADB), within the limits of village Nagenahalli, Kora Hobli, Tumkur Taluk and District containing by admeasuring 7300 sq. mt with boundaries, East By: Plot No.43-A,West By: Plot no.69A,North By: 30 Meters Wide Road and South By: Plot No.70.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 21.01.2021

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Bank of Baroda,
Overseas Branch, Bengaluru

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING > WINSTON CHURCHILL

SIR M. VISVESVARAYA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,
Corporate Office: # 109, Shankarmutt Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore - 560004.
Phone No.: 080-22956419 / 22956420, E-mail: corporate@vcb.co.in, Website: www.vcb.co.in

AUCTION SALE NOTICE

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Whereas, **M/s. Chourasia Interiors Pvt. Ltd.,** #22, I Cross, Aswathanagar, Marathalli, Bangalore - 560037 represented by its Directors and guarantors:- **Sri. Vijay Kumar Chourasia, Sri. Vinod Kumar Chourasia & Smt. Pramila Chourasia residing at the address** No. 525/526, "Sriharinivas", II Cross, Amarjyothi Layout, West Wing, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034 and **Smt. Rajani Chourasia** Legal heir of Late Vijay Prakash Chourasia residing at No.18, I Cross, II Main, (10th Cross), Doddanekkundi, Friends Layout, Chinnappa Garden, Bangalore - 560 037 having failed to repay the debt in respect of borrowing from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore - 560 040. The total amount due and payable by them jointly and severally as per the agreed terms and conditions is **Rs. 12,46,11,237/- (Rupees Twelve Crore Forty Six Lakhs Eleven Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Seven Only) as on 30-06-2020** with further interest + cost along with interest at the applicable rate.

Whereas the Bank has issued notice under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (4) of the Act, the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the mortgaged property including those more fully described hereunder, and the Bank has decided to sell the below mentioned property under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	DATE, TIME & PLACE OF AUCTION	RESERVE PRICE & EMD AMOUNT
1) All that Piece and Parcel of the land bearing Sy. No. 34, situated at Rampura Village, Bidarahalli Hobli Bangalore East Taluk, earlier Bangalore South Taluk measuring 1 acre 31.50 guntas out of 3 acres 23 guntas together with all rights appurtenances, whatsoever, whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on: **East by :** Road, **West by :** Portion of Land belongs to Sri. B K Raghavendra, **North by:** Portion of Land belongs to Sri. B K Raghavendra, **South by:** Road **2)** All the piece and parcel of the land bearing **a)** Sy No.24/1 measuring 1 acre 11.50 guntas out of 2 acres 23 guntas. **b)** Sy No. 33/4 measuring 0 acre 29 guntas out of 1 acres 18 guntas. **c)** Sy No. 33/3 measuring 1 acre 13 guntas out of 2 acres 26 guntas. **d)** Sy No. 33/2 measuring 0 acre 16 guntas out of 0 acres 32 guntas. All the above lands are situated at Rampura village, Bidarahalli Hobli Bangalore East Taluk earlier Bangalore South Taluk, together with all rights appurtenances, whatsoever, whether underneath or above the surface and jointly converted for residential purpose vide order No. ALN(EBB) SR 65/12/12-13 dated 03.11.2012 by the Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore and Jointly bounded on: **East by:** Remaining portion belongs to Sri. B K Raghavendra, **West by:** Private property, **North by:** Private property, **South by:** Road.	**Tuesday, 09-02-2021 at 3.00 PM to 4.30 PM Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Shankarpuram, Bangalore.**	**Rs. 18,05,07,000/-** (Rupees Eighteen Crores Five Lakhs and Seven Thousand Only) EMD: **Rs. 1,80,50,700/-** (Rupees One Crore Eighty Lakhs Fifty Thousand and Seven Hundred Only)

Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale:

1) Details of the property to be auctioned can be obtained from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore - 560040. (Ph. 080-22956413/414) on all working days during office hours.
2) The intending bidders should remit EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price by means of Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order / RTGS shall be drawn in favour of Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Bangalore after the date of publication of this auction Sale Notice.
3) The EMD will be accepted on the previous day of the auction that is **from 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM at Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Shankarmutt Road, Bangalore** and latest by **08-02-2021 before 10.00 A M.**
4) The property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price.
5) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refunded without interest.
6) The EMD amount shall be liable for forfeiture without prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Auction Sale.
7) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the Sale Price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft / RTGS vide RTGS No. 006016100000001 and IFSC Code MVCB0000006 and the balance of the Sale Price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
8) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues / taxes / charges / property tax / E B charges / water charges / conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
9) The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all of bid / offer and / or adjourn / postpone / cancel the Auction Sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
10) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
11) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder **between 9.30 AM and 5.00 PM** at his expenses at the address mentioned in the Schedule.
12) The property is put for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION" and terms stipulated under securatization Act 2002. The intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title, ownership, statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

For further details the intending bidders may contact the **Authorised Officer, Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., # 109, Corporate Office, Shankarmutt Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore - 560004** or **Branch Manager, Vijayanagar Branch,** during office hours for ascertaining the details of property and also for inspection of property **(Ph: 080-22956405/420/419/413/414),** E-Mail: **vij.branch@vcb.co.in**

Place : Bangalore
Date : 19-01-2021

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Limited

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XX ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIDAL MAGISTRATE AT BANGALORE
C. Mis. No. 6088/2020

Between: Balasubramanya. G S/o N. Gurappa, aged about 51 years, R/at No. 1009, 4th Main Road, D Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560 010. ... **Petitioner**

And: The Commisisoner, Registrar of Births and Deaths, Bengaluru Mahanagra Palike, Bangalore. ... **Respondent**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioners named above have filed the above petition seeking direction to Birth and Death represented by the Commisioner, BBMP, Bengaluru to register the death of the deceased who is the mother of all petitioner who was by name **Smt. MANJULA W/o C.N. Gurappa,** who died on **21-08-2016** death place is at No. 1009, 4th Main Road, D Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560 010 and issue the direction accordingly for the death certificate.

Any person interested and having any objection in this matter, may appear before the above court at 11.00 am on 12-02-2021 to which date the case is posted for hearing.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on 20-01-2021.

By order of the Court, Shirestedar, XX ACMM Court, Bangalore.

Advocate for Petitioner: **H.L. DHARMENDRA**
No. 64, EWS 8th 'A' Cross, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru-560060.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general/public at large are hereby notified that my client **Sri.D.N.Giridhar S/o Sri.D.M.Narayana,** No.468, 19th Main Road, 36th Cross, 4th T Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560041, has lost the Original Sale Deed dated 26.02.1992, registered on 12.03.1992, Document No: 5901/1991-92, Book No.1, Volume No.3536, pages No.136 to 142, sub registrar Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, executed by Sri.K.Narayana Raju in favour of Sri. I. Srinivas and Original Sale Deed, dated 22.05.2002, Document No: 2069/2002-03, of CD No.77/2002-03, executed by Sri.I.Srinivas in favour of Sri.D.N.Giridhar and other Originals of Old Khata, betterment charge paid receipt, Tax paid receipts and etc., in respect of converted Property bearing site No.B6, BBMP Katha No. 422/1894/1790/1502/165/2/36/77A 97/1, PID No.165/2, House List No.77A, Old Khata No.97/1, CMC Khata No.1502/165/2/77A/97/1, in converted Sy.No.165/2, Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, converted No.B.DIS.ALN. SR(S)269/88-89, dated 27.02.1989, by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, measuring East to West 43 feet and North to South 52 feet. My client has also lodged complaint before Bangalore City Police, on 21.01.2021 under Lost Report No. 012506/2021. Any Person/s institution / authority having custody of above said original sale deeds and other originals khata, Tax and betterment charge paid receipt and etc., may have produce/give with the undersigned and my client request the public/institution/ authority not to misuse/ transact with above stated documents from any persons/ institution and etc., Hence this Public Notice for lost of above stated documents.

S. SURESHA, ADVOCATE,
No. 65, Laggere Main Road,
Laggere, Bangalore -560058.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of public are hereby notified that our Clients **Mrs. SHEELA M.** W/o Mr. R.K. Guruprasad R/at No. 25/1, DVG Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, **Mrs. RAMYA R.,** W/o Mr. Madhusudana B.S. and **Mr. MADHUSUDANA B.S.** S/o Shivalinge Gowda, both of them R/at No. 118, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, 1st Main, Kanaka Layout, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560070 are interested to purchase the immovable property described in the schedule hereunder for consideration from **Mr P. VIJAYA KUMAR,** S/o Sri Pillappa, 3617, Winding Oaks, Dr. Flower Mound, Texas-75022 who has represented to be the sole and absolute owner in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Schedule Property. Any persons having or purporting to have any charge, lien, interest, minor claims, right/s, demands whatsoever with respect to the Schedule Property or any portions thereof shall lodge their claim to the undersigned with documentary proof within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no objections or claims whatsoever are received within the said time then our clients will proceed for purchasing the schedule property free encumbrance. No claims shall be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of corner site bearing site No. 63 in Judicial Layout, 2nd Phase, Shiva Nagar, situated at Thalaghattapura Village, Thalaghattapura, Bangalore South Taluk presently come within the limits of BBMP, BBMP Katha dated 29/06/2019, Kengeri Sub Division, Hemmigepura Ward No. 198, Thalaghattapura, Bangalore, measuring East to West 47.6' ft. + 43'/2 ft., and North to South 60' totalling 2715 square feet and bounded by : **East by :** Site No. 62, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Road, **South by :** Site No. 64.

K. SRIDHAR, Advocate
'Mathru Mandira', No. 27, 8th Cross, N.R. Colony, Bengaluru-560004. Ph. No. 9341249007

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2 AT BANGALORE
No.4, 1st Floor, 'Jeevan Mangal' (LIC Building), Residency Road, Bengaluru-560 025.

DRC No. 9945/TRC/211/2017

CITY UNION BANK LTD., KORAMANGALA BRANCH, BANGALORE-560 034 ... **Certificate Holder**

-Versus-

MR. MAHESH AND ANOTHER

DEMAND NOTICE

1. **MR. MAHESH** S/o Maregowda, No. 45, Honnaghatta Village, Kodigehalli Post, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore.
2. **MRS. ANNAPURANA** W/o Mahesh, No.45, Honnaghatta Village, Kodigehalli Post, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore. ... **Defendants**

In View of the Recovery Certificate issued in **O.A No. 368/2014** passed by the Presiding Officer, DRT, Bangalore and Amount of **Rs. 74,32,012/- (Rupees Seventy Four Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Twelve Only)** is due against you.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the above sum within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

In additions to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay:

a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after the notice of the execution proceeding in OA.

b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amout due.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on 17-03-2017.

By order of the Tribunal, Recovery Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the 'Scheduled Property' mentioned hereunder is owned by and is in actual physical possession of Mr. V Shankar and Mrs. Sujatha, residing at No. 700, 9th A Main, Indiranagar, Bangalore (hereinafter referred as Owners), as the sole and absolute right, title and interest holders thereof. The Owners claim that their rights are free from all encumbrances, charges, claims, etc. of whatsoever nature and that they have a clear and marketable title in respect of the Scheduled Property'. This public notice is issued for verification of the title of the Owners' with respect to the Scheduled Property'. My client has come forward to purchase the property for a valuable sale consideration.

All or any persons including any banks, financial institutions or any other party or person, having any valid and legal claim, right, title, demand or interest by virtue of any sale, gift, lease, tenancy, license, exchange, partition, mortgage, charge, lien, inheritance, succession, trust, maintenance, possession, easement, agreement, lis-pendence, stay order, attachment, decree specific performance or otherwise or any other right of whatsoever nature are required called upon to convey their objection/s in writing at the address mentioned below, within (10) Ten days from issuance of this notice, along with all supporting documents relating to such claim, failing which it shall be presumed that there is/are no claim/s and such claim/s if any, shall be considered to be waived and abandoned in respect of the 'Scheduled Property.

SCHEDULED PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing No. 82 (presently in BCC Ward No. 72), Situated at HAL II Stage, Extension (formed by the Bangalore Development Authority) Bangalore, Measuring East to West 8.20 + 10.70/2 Meters and North to South 12.10 meters in all measuring 114.345 Sq. Meters or 1230 Sq. Feet with construction thereon and bounded on.

East : Site No. 81,
West : Road,
North : Site No. 83,
South : Road.

VIVEK .R, Advocate
S-3, SPS Enclave Apartment, 2nd Cross, Judicial Layout, Thalaghattapura, Bangalore-560109.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my Client is proposing to purchase for valuable consideration the immovable property more fully described in the Schedule written hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the 'Schedule Property' from Smt. Yashodamma and Sri. Abhilash Reddy, wife and only son of late Sri. K.P. Muni Reddy who claim to be the only legal heirs of late Sri. K.P. Muni Reddy and lawful owners in possession and occupation of the Schedule Property.

Any person/s, financial institutions, statutory authorities objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property may lodge their objections and / or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within 7 (seven) days from the date of this publication and objection and / or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my Client and my Client will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if there are no claimants/ objections from any person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property with building bearing New Municipal No. 25, Old No. 2, Old Koramangala Village Gramatana Khaneshmari Khatha No. 629, Old Assessment No. 75 of Koramangala Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now situated at 2nd Main, K.R. Garden, Koramangala Village, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No. 67, PID No. 67-37-25, measuring East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 60 feet, in all measuring 1800 Square Feet and bounded on the: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Property belonging to Yellamma, **North by:** Remaining portion of land belonging to K.S. Venkatappa Reddy, **South by:** Private Property.

Sd/- **A.B. Cariappa,** Advocate, KAR 1759/95
No. 154, 3rd floor, Mallige Complex, K.H.B. Colony, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 095 | Ph: 080 2563 4089, 9845700443

STATE BANK OF INDIA

RETAIL ASSETS CENTRAL PROCESSING CENTRE (RACPC) – I, BASAVANGUDI

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name: Mr. Lokesh
Chief Manager,
E-mail Id:lokesh.lokesh@sbi.co.in
Mobile No:+91 8971918882
Land Line No. (Office): 080-25943668

Address of the Branch:
No. 13/1, Kanaka's Pride, Bull Temple Road,
Opp. Sri Rama Krishna Math,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru -560 004,
Manager (NPAM) : Sri M. Sreenivas, 9110492300
Tel No: 080 -2594 3338/9 , Tel Fax: 080 - 25943367,
Email Id: mgrracpc.zoban@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX – IV A
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
E-AUCTION ON 10.02.2021
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
(EXCLUDING MOVABLE ASSETS, IF ANY, LYING IN THE PREMISES)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets (excluding movable assets, if any, lying thereon) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6)and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and the below mentioned Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s) in particular that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, State Bank of India and whose actual physical possession has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on **10.02.2021** for recovery of loan dues to the State Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s)as specifically mentioned hereunder against their names.
The Name and Address of the Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s), Outstanding dues, and the reserve price, the earnest money deposit (EMD), bid increment, time and date of e-auciton and last date for submission of EMD along with KYC documents for each property of the said Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s) to be sold will be as under:

(1)Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Sri. Melwin Mathias,** S/o Late Sri Augustion Leo Mathias, No.90, 3rd Main, 3rdCross, Anandgiri Extension, Hebbal, Bengaluru – 560024. **Also at: (i)** Flat No.001, Ground Floor, 'PEACE PARK', "BR Valley Park", Balagarnahalli Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist. **(ii)** C/o Balkanni, Opp. Kent Water Purifier, No.604, 12thCross, Vinayaka Layout, 4thStage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru – 560072. **(iii) Office Address:** Sri Melwin Mathias, M/s IBM India Pvt. Ltd., Manyatha Embassy Business Park, D-1, Outer Ring Road, Nagavara, Bengaluru – 560045.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.60,23,067/-** (Rupees Sixty Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Sixty Seven Only) as on **20.01.2021** and further interest at contractual rate from **21.01.2021** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	EMD	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
(1)	Rs.23,74,000/-	Rs.2,37,400/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 10.02.2021	08.02.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

TENDER NO: SBI/GWR/18230/HL/239/2020-21:
PROEPRTY No. (1) : SCHEDULE 'A'- All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site Nos.55, 59, 62, 66, 56, 57, 64, 65, 58, 60, 61 and 63, V.P Katha Nos.1217/55, 1221/59, 1224/62, 1228/66, 1218/56, 1219/57, 1226/64, 1227/65, 1220/58, 1222/60, 1223/61 & 1225/63 respectively, Presently bears clubbed common Katha No.1218/56-1219/57-1220/58-1222/60-1223/61-1227/65-12, SI.N0.150200101500401329, situated in the layout Known as **"BR Valley Park"** formed in converted Sy.Nos.48/1, 48/2, 48/3, 48/4 & 49/2 {the land bearing Sy.Nos.48/1 & 48/2 is Converted by the office of the Special Deputy Commissioner vide Official Memorandum dated 31/03/2009, bearing No.ALN (A) (K and A) SR:398/07-08, and land bearing Sy.Nos.48/3 & 48/4 is converted by the office of the Special Deputy Commissioner vide Official Memorandum dated 11/11/2010, bearing No.ALN (A) (A) SR:41/10-11, and land bearing Sy.No.49/2, is converted by the office of the Special Deputy Commissioner vide Official Memorandum dated 31/03/2009, bearing No.ALN (A) (K and A) SR:397/07-08 for the measuring 32.08 Guntas and Official Memorandum dated 11/11/2010, bearing No.ALN (A) (A) SR:42/10-11 for the -measuring 33.08 Guntas} and a layout approved by the Anekal Planning Authority vide No.APALAO/65/2010-11, dated 17/05/2011, situated at Balagaranahalli Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and totally measures East to West 54.43 Mtrs and North to South 30 Mtrs, totally measuring 1632.9 Sq.Mts or 17576.54 Sq. feet, the said Property presently physical availability measuring about 1626.45 Sq. Mts or 17507.1078 Sq.feet with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on the: East by: Road, West by: 3M Pathway and Park; North by: Road, South by: Road.
SCHEDULE "B" : 360 Sq. ft. undivided right, title and interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule "A" above.
SCHEDULE "C": Flat bearing No.001, Present V.P. Katha No.1217/001, Property ID No.150200101500420164 in the Ground Floor, measuring about 1202 Sq. feet super built up area, containing Two bed rooms, together with RCC Roofing and vitrified flooring together with One covered car parking space, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, etc., in the multistoried residential building known as "**PEACE PARK"** constructed over Schedule "A" Property. The Said Flat standing in the name of Sri Melwin Mathias, S/o Late Sri Augustino Leo Mathias, vide Sale Deed dated 11.08.2017, registered as Document No.BSK-1-05266/2017-18 and CD No.BSKD413 dated 11.08.2017 at SRO, Basavanagudi (Banashankari), Bengaluru.

(2)Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Sri. Melwin Mathias,** S/o Late Sri Augustion Leo Mathias, No.90, 3rd Main, 3rdCross, Anandgiri Extension, Hebbal, Bengaluru – 560024. **Also at: (i)** Flat No.002, Ground Floor, 'PEACE PARK', "BR Valley Park", Balagarnahalli Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist. **(ii)** C/o Balkanni, Opp. Kent Water Purifier, No.604, 12thCross, Vinayaka Layout, 4thStage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru – 560072. **(iii) Office Address:** Sri Melwin Mathias, M/s IBM India Pvt. Ltd., Manyatha Embassy Business Park, D-1, Outer Ring Road, Nagavara, Bengaluru – 560045.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.60,18,501/-** (Rupees Sixty Lakh Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and One Only) as on **20.01.2021** and further interest at contractual rate from **21.01.2021** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	EMD	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
(2)	Rs.22,71,000/-	Rs.2,27,100/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 10.02.2021	08.02.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

TENDER NO: SBI/RACPC1/GWR/18230/HL/240/2020-21:
PROEPRTY No. (2) : SCHEDULE 'A'- Same as mentioned in Property (1) referred to herein above.
SCHEDULE "B" : 345 Sq. ft. undivided right, title and interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule "A" above.
SCHEDULE "C": Flat bearing No.002, Present V.P. Katha No.1217/002, Property ID No.150200101500420165 in the Ground Floor, measuring about 1150 Sq. feet super built up area, containing Two bed rooms, together with RCC Roofing, vitrified flooring together with One covered car parking space, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, etc., in the multistoried residential building known as **"PEACE PARK"** constructed over Schedule "A" Property. The Said Flat standing in the name of Sri Melwin Mathias, S/o Late Sri Augustino Leo Mathias, vide Sale Deed dated 11.08.2017, registered as Document No.BSK-1-05265/2017-18 and BSKD413 dated 11.08.2017 at SRO, Basavanagudi (Banashankari), Bengaluru.

(3) Name & Address of the Borrowers/ Mortgagors	**(1) Sri Balbir Singh,** S/o Sri Ramji Lal, **(2) Smt. Reshma,** W/o Sri Ramji Lal, **Both residing at:** (i) B29, 16-B Main, 3rd Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru - 560099. (ii) No.94, 8th Main, 2nd Cross, Tata Nagar, Bengaluru - 560092,
Name & Address of the Guarantor	**Sri Suresh Kumar Gupta**, S/o Late Sri Baghwandas, No.55, KSIIDC Bommasandra, Industrial Area, Anekla Taluk, Bengaluru District – 562158.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.7,81,999/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Eighty One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Nine Only)** as on **20.01.2021** and further interest at contractual rate from **21.01.2021** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	EMD	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
(3)	Rs.31,89,000/-	Rs.3,18,900/-	Rs.30,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 10.02.2021	08.02.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

TENDER NO: SBI/GWR/50573/HL/98/2020-21:
PROEPRTY No. (6) :SCHEDULE A : ITEM NO.(1): All that piece and parcel of Immovable Property being residentially converted land approximately measuring 4 acres 15 guntas in Survey no.101 and 16 guntas in Survey No.156/2 totally measuring approximately 4 Acres 31 guntas in extent together with approximately 17 guntas of Kharab Land in Survey No.156/2 and BDA approved Plan No. NM/AS/KS- 3 East/68/2004-05 Dated: 07/12/2004 & NM/AS/AA3/E/107/2007-08 Dated : 05/02/2008 situated in Doddatoguru Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk (Now Bangalore East Taluk), bounded on the: East by: Property in Survey No. 101 mentioned in Item No.2 below, West by: Property in Survey No.102, North by : Road and remaining portion of Survey No.156,South by : Boundary of Anekal Taluk
ITEM NO.(II): All that piece and parcel of Immovable Property being residentially converted land approximately measuring 5 acres 02 guntas in extent situated in Survey No.101 and BDA approved Plan No. NM/AS/KS-3 East/68/2004-05 Dated: 07/12/2004 & NM/AS/AA3/E/107/2007-08 Dated: 05/02/2008 of Doddatoguru Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk (Now Bangalore East Taluk), bounded on the: East by : Remaining Portion of Survey No.101, West by: Property in Survey No.101, mentioned in Item No.I above,North by: Road,South by: Boundary of Anekal Taluk.
SCHEDULE "B": All that Residential Apartment bearing **No.O-301 in Level Three(Second Floor) in Block "O"** of **"ITTINA MAHAVEER" built in SCHEDULE "A" Property** and measuring **1103 Square feet of super built up area** inclusive of proportionate share in common areas, passages, lobbies, staircase and other areas of common use with together with **331 Square feet, undivided share**, right, title, interest and ownership in the Land comprised in the SCHEDULE "A" Property and in the said Apartment the doors are made out of flush doors and steel windows and ceramic Flooring. The said Flat standing in the joint names of Sri Balbir Singh, S/o Sri Ramji Lal and Smt. Reshma W/o Sri Ramji Lal, vide Sale Deed dated 03.07.2013 and registered as Document No.BMH-1-03040/2013-14 and CD No.BMHD633 dated 03.07.2013 at the Office of the Senior Sub Registrar Office, Jayanagar (Bommanahalli), Bengaluru.

4. Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**1) Smt. Aruna Krishna Reddy B.K.,** W/o Sri Jayakumar Reddy, **2) Sri Jayakumar Reddy,** S/o Sri ChinnaVenkataramana Reddy **Both Residing at:** No.40/195, 'ASHRAYA', 3rd Cross, 9th Main, 7th Block, BSK III Stage, Bengaluru -560085.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.4,47,558/-**(Rupees Four Lakh Forty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Eighty Only)as on 20.01.2021 + interest from 21.01.2021 + costs, charges and incidental expenses

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	EMD	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
(4)	Rs.20,62,500/-	Rs.2,06,250/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 10.02.2021	08.02.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI/GWR/10411/HL/99/2020-21
All that part parcel of property situated at Plot No.23, Aishwarya North City, Sy. No.8, 11/2, 12/1, 14/1, 14/2, 15/1, 16 & 17 Southegowganahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District located near Devanahalli Police Station about 40 Kms from City Railway Station and bus stand measuring East to West 50feet and North to South 30 feet totally 1500 Sq.ft. standing in the name Smt. Aruna Krishan Reddy B.K. W/o Sri Jayakumar Reddy and bounded on:East by: Site No.22, West by: 40 feet Road, North by:Site No.24, South by: 30 feet Road.

(5)Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Smt. Geetha K Lakshman Rao**,W/o. Sri Muralidhar,No.22/1, 1stFloor, 1stMain, Near Surana College,Vijayarangam Layout,Basavanagudi, Bengaluru – 560 004, **Also at:** (i) No.41, Ground Floor,Mountain Street, I Block East,Jayanagar, Bengaluru – 560 011, (ii) F-01, 'Sri Sai Royal Residency',Kothanur Royal Comfy, Kothanur, Bengaluru – 560 062, (iii) Mrs. Geetha K Lakshman Rao, C/o. M/s. TEK Systems India Pvt. Ltd.,RMZ NXT Campus, IB Unit 401-402,4thFloor, EPIP Zone,Whitefield, Bengaluru – 560 066, (iv) Mrs. Geetha K Lakshman Rao,C/o. M/s. ALLEGIS Services (P) Ltd., Commerce @ Mantri Level -3,12/1, N.S. Palya, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru – 560 076.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.66,99,045/-** (Rupees Sixty Six Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Forty Five Only) as on **21.01.2021** and further interest at contractual rate from **22.01.2021** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	EMD	Bid increment	Time & Date of e-Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
(5)	Rs.32,32,000/-	Rs.3,23,200/-	Rs.30,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 10.02.2021	08.02.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI/GWR/6866/HL/2594/2020-21:
SCHEDULE –'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the immovable Residential Property being a vacant site bearing No.616, BBMP Khatha No.616, Kothanur, Royal County, New PID No.194-W0358-38, measuring East to West on Northern Side 42 feet (12.81 meters), East to West on Southern Side 40 feet (12.2 meters), North to South on Eastern Side 62.75 feet (19.13 Meters) and North to South on Western Side 64.5 feet (19.66 meters), in all measuring 2608 Square feet (242.36 Square Meters) carved out of Converted Land bearing Sy. Nos.8/3, 8/6, 13/1, 13/2, 16/2, 28/3, 30 (P), 31/1, 31/2, 31/3, 31/4, 31/5, 31/6A, 31/6B, 31/7, 31/10, 32/1, 32/2, 35/1, 35/2, 35/3, 36/4, 36/7 and 39/2 (duly converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide its Order Nos.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 130, 131, 133, 140 and 141/98-99 all dated 17/11/1999 and Order bearing No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)134 and 135/1999-2000 dated 11/02/2000 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Bengaluru District, Bengaluru, in the layout known as "ROYAL COUNTY" situated at Kothanur Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, presently comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru MahanagaraPalike, Ward No.194 – Anjanapura, together with all rights, appurtenances, whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on: East by: Site bearing No.615, West by: Site bearing No.617, North by: 3 Mtr. Pathway, South by: Road.
SCHEDULE –'B' PROPERTY: 216 Sq. ft. of undivided share, right, title and interest in the land comprising in Schedule –'A' Property, mentioned above together with Two Bedrooms Apartment bearing No.Fr.F-1 in the Fourth Floor measuring 1065 Sq. ft. of Super Built up Area with Vitrified Tiles Flooring and with One Car Parking Slot be the part of multistoried residential complex known as "SHRI SAI ROYAL" constructed at Schedule –'A' Property, standing in the name of Smt. Geetha K,W/o. Sri Muralidhar, vide Sale Deed registered as Document No.JAY-1-05218/2016-17 and CD No.JAYD268 dated 27.09.2016 at SRO, Jayanagar, Bengaluru.

(6) Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Sri.Bhaskar Krishna** S/o. Sri.Krishna, Flat No.403, 3rd Floor,Fortitude Elina Apartment, No.15 & 16, 5th Cross, Bikasipura Main Road,Bengaluru – 560 062, **Also at: (i)**Peepal Tree Apartment,Flat No.004, Ground Floor, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru – 560 062, **(ii)Office Address:** Sri. Bhaskar Krishna, Airwaave Communicado (I) Pvt. Ltd., 553, Sri Durga Arcade, 3rd Floor,2nd Main, 41st Cross, Jayanagar 8th Block, Bengaluru – 560 082.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.63,30,975/-** (Rupees Sixty Three Lakh Thirty Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Five Only) as on **21.01.2021** and further interest at contractual rate from **22.01.2021** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	EMD	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
(6)	Rs.29,45,000/-	Rs.2,94,500/-	Rs.30,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 10.02.2021	08.02.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI/GWR/6866/HL/2657/2020-21:
SCHEDULE –'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.2/4, BBMP Katha No.319/536-2/4, formed out of converted land in Sy. No.2/4, Converted from agricultural purpose to Non-Agricultural Residential Purposes vide Official Memorandum No.ALN(SU).SR-19/2008-09 dated 04/12/2008, issued by the Spl. Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru, situated at Doddakallasandra Village, UttarahalliHobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West 80 ft and North to South (165+160)/2, in all measuring an extent of 13000 Sq.ft., and bounded on the:East by: Property of Sri M.N. Gosakan,West by: Temple and Road,North by: Property of Rajashekar, South by: Sy. No.2/4.
SCHEDULE –'B' PROPERTY: 225 Sq. ft., of undivided share, right, title and interest of the land in the Schedule – 'A' Property conveyed to the Purchaser herein.
SCHEDULE –'C' PROPERTY: Flat bearing No.004, in the Ground Floor, in the Apartment building known as 'Peepal Tree' constructed on Schedule –'A' Property together with Super built up area of 1050 Sq. feet, consisting of Two Bed Rooms, Living, Kitchen, Bathroom and Toilet, etc. including One Car Parking Space, with all Common amenities and services in the common area on the land described in Schedule –'A' Property. The said Flat standing in the name of Sri. Bhaskar Krishna, S/o. Sri. Krishna, vide Sale Deed dated 26.04.2017, registered as Document No.KEN-1-00601/2017-18 and CD No.KEND671 dated 26.04.2017 at SRO, Jayanagar(Kengeri), Bengaluru.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the links provided by the Secured Creditor, State Bank of India, RACPC -I, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, represented by its Authorised Officer, i.e., (1) www.sbi.co.in (2) www.tenders.gov.in and (3)https://www.bankeauctions.com/Sbi
FOR INSPECTION OF THE PROPERTIES PLEASEE CONTACT : 9739087288/ 9740367868

Date: 22.01.2021
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-Authorised Officer
SBI, RACPC -I, Basavangudi, Bengaluru.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Regional Office : Bengaluru – West

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officers (details mentioned below) will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" on 26.02.2021, 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM,** for recovery of dues with further interest and cost thereon due to the Canara bank.E-auction arranged by service provider **Ms.CANBANK COMPUTER SERVICS LTD(www.indianbankseauction.com).**

SL NO	Name of the Borrowers/Guarantors Description of the movable / immovable assets:	Loan amount due	Reserve Price/EMD In Amount	1) Last Date of Deposit of EMD 2) EMD A/c Number 3) IFSC Code	Incremental value at the Bid In INR	Branch Name/Authorized Officer / Service Provider name and contact number	Account details for remitting EMD And IFSC Code
1	**1) a) Sri Niteesh Balda (Prop M/s Amrani Enterprises)** # H-402, Balda Niwas, Snowdrop Block, ETA Star Garden Apartments, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560023, **b) Smt Sapna Balda,** # H-402, Balda Niwas, Snowdrop Block, ETA Star Garden Apartments, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560023 (Guarantor) **Property on Sale:** Residential flat standing in the name of Smt Sapna Balda All the piece and parcel of converted land bearing BBMP Khata No 18 (Old no 211/10) situated at Sanjeevappa Road, Nagavarapalya, Benniganahalli, K R Puram, Bangalore measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet in all measuring 1200 SFT bounded by towards is. East – Road West – Road North – Private Property South – Road, **Flat bearing No. G1,** bifurcated New no. 18/G1 in the apartment complex known as SANTOSH & S R RESIDENCY constructed on the land covered above schedule property, with a super built up area of 1200 SFT, along with undivided share of 305 SFT.	1) Rs 74,89,935/- plus further interest and charges	Reserve Price Rs.42,66,000/- EMD 3) 4,26,600/-	1) 24.02.2021 Before 5.00 pm 2) 1199295000001 3) CNRB0001199	50,000/-	Canara bank- Chikkabidarakallu Branch Phone : 080-23714566 Mobile-9483551199	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
2	**1) Srinivasan D,** #259thCross, KalyanNagar, T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore,Karnataka. **Propertyon Sale:** Allthat piece and parcel of the property bearingVacantsiteNo.25, GramatanakhataNo.143/3/25, HuskurVillage, DasanapuraHobli, BangaloreNorthTaluk,Bangalore,now Huskur Village Panchayath, Bangalore, 562123 measuring East to west 40Feet, and North to South 57 Feet,in allmeasuring 2280 square feet and boundedontheEast:Road,West:PrivateProperty,North:Siteno.26,South:Siteno.24.	Rs.1,21,61,111 Plus further Interestand charges	ReservePrice Rs.31,92,000/- EMD Rs.3,19,200/-	1) 24.02.2021 Before 5.00 pm 2)06513020000020 3) CNRB0010651	50,000/-	Canara Bank RAH- Basaveshwara Nagara, Branch, Phone-080-23483175, Mob- 9449862084	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.

Other terms and conditions: **(a)** Auction/bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the respective website www.indianbankseauction.com. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. **(b)** The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. **(c)** For downloading further details, Process, Compliance and terms & conditions, Please visit :.**https://www.canarabank.com,** Website address of our e-Auction service provider: and www.indianbankseauction.com Bidder may visit www.indianbankseauction.com where "Guidelines" for bidders are available with educational videos. Bidders have to complete following formalities well in Advance: Step 1: Bidder/purchaser Registration: Bidder to register on e-auction Platform (link given above) using his mobile number and email id Step 2: KYC Verification: Bidder to upload requisite KYC documents. KYC documents shall be verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days). Please note that Steps should be completed by bidder well in advance, before e-Auction date. Indenting bidders shall hold a valid digital signature certificate and email address. Bids shall be submitted through online procedure only. **e)** After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before **26.02.2021 ,5.00 pm, to Canara Bank, Regional Office WEST, Bengaluru** by hand or by email. (roblrwrec@canarabank.com) **i)** Acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No. **ii)** Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount. iii) Bidders Name, Contact No, Address, E Mail Id. **f)**).The bidder who submits the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. **g)** The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the saleprice, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. **h) For sale proceeds of Rs.50,00,000/- (Fifty Lakh Only) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank. i) All charges for conveyance, stamp duty/GST registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. j)** Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. **k)** In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the e-auction, they can approach concerned Circle office or contact branch who, as a facilitating centre, shall make necessary arrangements. **l)** For further details contact branches at the number given above Property Inspection date and time **24.02.2021 10.00 am to 5.00 PM.**
SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CAUTION: Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest . Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back –up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully

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Date: 23.01.2021
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Amid tight security, the idols of Seeta, Rama and Laxmana arrived at the Ramatheertham temple in Vizianagaram on Saturday morning. The priests and endowment officials received the idols by chanting mantras

Tharoor to prepare Cong manifesto

CYNTHIA CHANDRAN @T'Puram

SHASHI Tharoor, MP, has been roped in to prepare the election manifesto along with the UDF committee which is already visiting various districts to elicit proposals from a wide range of people. The decision to use his skills was taken at the AICC-appointed election management and strategy committee's meeting chaired by Oommen Chandy here on Saturday.

Tharoor will be travelling across five districts to garner the public's views for bringing out a "people's manifesto". The AICC is keen on cashing in on Tharoor's popularity among the masses, especially youths and students. This is the first time in Tharoor's 12-year-old political stint as Thiruvananthapuram MP that the KPCC has brought him to the forefront of state politics.

A few months ago, KPCC president Mullappally Ramachandran had sought Tharoor's explanation on the infamous letter addressed to Congress president Sonia Gandhi. It was Oommen Chandy who had ensured that Tharoor was included in the high-power strategy committee.

It should be recalled that both Chandy and Tharoor enjoy a special rapport and he is the only leader to address the former chief minister as "OC chettan".

ASSEMBLY ELECTION

TN candidates sound poll bugle

Palaniswami challenges Stalin to debate over corruption charges against his govt

(L) Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and (R) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addressing large gatherings in Coimbatore on Saturday | A RAJA CHIDAMBARAM, U RAKESH KUMAR

Corruption will soar if DMK wins, says EPS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

"ALL your valuable lands will no longer be yours if the DMK comes back to power. They would all go into the hands of DMK men," CM Edappadi K Palaniswami cautioned the public while addressing a massive gathering in Coimbatore on Saturday. Palaniswami is on a two-day election campaign in the city.

He said that 13 former DMK ministers are facing corruption charges against them. "Their government also has a history of being dissolved due to corruption. It is, hence, ironic that DMK chief MK Stalin met with the Governor and submitted a report, with baseless allegations against AIADMK ministers," said the CM.

He added that Stalin, in his report, had mentioned that there was misappropriation of ₹450 crore in the implementation of Tirunelveli-Tenkasi road project. In reality, the tender process had been cancelled and a new tender was yet to be floated, Palaniswami said.

The CM challenged Stalin over an open debate on the corruption charges against the government. Listing out the AIADMK government's achievements, he said that he did not indulge in levelling baseless charges like Stalin, instead had let his work do the talking.

Batting for industrialists

"Whether in power or the Opposition, I will continue to voice entrepreneurial issues," Rahul Gandhi assured industrialists during a meeting.

Solo performance by Rahul Gandhi in Kovai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore/Tirupur

THE industrial centres of Coimbatore and Tirupur took a pause on Saturday to welcome Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. While large crowds gathered across these cities in rapt attention to hear what the leader had to say about the assembly elections, missing conspicuously was the grand old party's dearest ally in all of South India — the DMK.

This is in stark contrast to Gandhi's visit earlier this month to Madurai to witness a jallikattu event, when he was accompanied by DMK's youth wing leader Udhayanidhi Stalin. When asked about the absence of their allies, even to welcome the Gandhi scion in the State, Congress leaders dismissed any friction, saying it was because this event was being organised by itself to display its strength against the BJP, which has been boasting about its strong influence in the Kongu belt.

"That apart, alliance partners were not invited because we have a lot of internal issues to discuss," said a senior Congress leader. None of that, however, detracted Rahul from the rally. After launching a tirade against the Centre and the BJP for "ignoring Tamil Nadu and the needs of the Tamils," he stepped out of his caravan and into a tea shop to interact with the excited public.

After Sasikala, relative Ilavarasi tests positive for Covid-19

CHETANA BELAGERE @Bengaluru

TWO days after former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister late Jayalalithaa's aide VK Sasikala tested positive for Covid-19, her sister-in-law and cell mate at Bengaluru's prison, J Ilavarasi has also tested positive.

Ilavasari is asymptomatic and has been shifted to Victoria Hospital, where Sasikala is also being treated for the same infection. Ilavarasi was also awaiting release on January 27 along with Sasikala.

"45-year-old Ilavarasi's RT-PCR test came positive and she was brought to the hospital by prison authorities around 3.30 pm. She is asymptomatic and is being treated for Covid-19. She is a patient with a history of diabetes and hypertension," said Dr Jayanthi, Dean of Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI).

According to prison officials, Ilavarasi's samples for Covid-19 were taken on Friday. While her Rapid Antigen Test had shown negative, they waited for the RT-PCR test reports which came positive. After she tested positive, as she was asymptomatic, and given initial treatment at the prison hospital before being taken to Victoria Hospital.

Ilavarasi's RT-PCR test came positive and she was brought to the hospital by prison authorities around 3.30 pm. She is asymptomatic

Dr Jayanthi, dean, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute

Meanwhile, authorities clarified that both Sasikala and Ilavarasi shared a cell and there were no other occupants. However, as a precaution, 15 prison staff who had come in contact with them were tested, and all their reports have come negative.

"We also subjected some of our prison staff including those who had accompanied Sasikala while shifting her to Bowring on Thursday. Their test reports have come out as negative," prison officials said.

Meanwhile the health bulletin released by Victoria Hospital said that Sasikala is still in ICU, but has been responding well to treatment and her symptoms have reduced. "She is being continuously monitored in ICU. She is conscious, alert and well-oriented. She is also taking oral food normally," said the bulletin.

She was taken to Bowring Hospital on Wednesday after she complained of breathlessness. She was later shifted to Victoria Hospital and was admitted to the ICU for Severe Acute Respiratory Infection. Her CT Scan later confirmed that she was positive for Covid-19.

Munikrishna is new MC&A chairman

Bengaluru: C Munikrishna took charge of communications firm Marketing Communication and Advertising Limited (MC&A) on January 18. Siddalingappa B Pujari, Managing Director, and H R Thirthesh, Director, congratulated him with a bouquet.

CRIME PATROL

ACB raids BBMP engineer, seizes valuables worth ₹2 crore

BENGALURU: ACB officials on Friday raided the government residence of BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer C T Anjanappa at Jeevan Bima Nagar and his house at Lokikere village in Davanagere district and seized cash, gold and silver ornaments worth Rs 2.16 crore. A senior police officer said that Anjanappa is currently serving as AEE in Bommanahalli zone, and the raids were conducted on suspicion of his acquiring illegal assets in Davangere. When the officials knocked on his door, he tried to escape but was arrested. Preliminary investigations revealed that he had worked in several departments and was involved in illegal money transactions, the officer added.

Panel cleared projects worth ₹26K-cr in single sitting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

EARLIER this month, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa laid the foundation stone for the much-hyped Koppal toy cluster. The project has already received investment proposals worth Rs 1,540 crore from six firms.

Prior to that, the Union Government approved funding of Rs 1,702 crore for Karnataka to develop the Tumakuru node as the next big industrial hub. Once operational, the project is estimated to create a phenomenal 88,500 jobs.

These are just some of the big-ticket projects that Karnataka is armed with to give its economy a boost apart from two key national highway projects at a cost of Rs 323 crore. With a new industrial policy in hand, the State High-Level Clearance Committee (SHLCC), in a single sitting in December, cleared five projects with a total investment potential of Rs 26,659 crore and can generate employment for 13,341 people. This despite the state witnessing labour tensions at the Toyota Kirloskar Motor plant in Bidadi and iPhone maker Wistron near Kolar which threatened to hamper Karnataka's investment prospects.

On the rural front, the agriculture sector has performed better than the last fiscal year owing to good rains. For those who went back to villages in reverse migration as a fallout of the Covid-19 lockdown, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) ensured jobs.

"By mid-January, we had already achieved 12 crore person days as against our annual target of 13 crore PDs. The demand was so high that we had to ask the Union Government to revise our target by another 1.1 crore PDs," said L K Atheeq, Principal Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, who added that the scheme acted as a safety net for wokers.

With work from home kicking in as early as March last year, the Information Technology (IT) sector suffered minimal damage due to the pandemic. "The IT sector rose to the challenge, and the facilitation and concessions given by the government helped. We ensured utilities were maintained and output was not affected. We were the first to remove restrictions for all sectors and allowed the gradual opening of the manufacturing sector too. Our timely policy decisions, without waiting for anyone, helped," said Deputy Chief Minister Dr C N Ashwathnarayana, pointing to the government's role in the state's economic recovery.

Economic activity is bustling within the state with new airports under construction and more domestic flights connecting Tier-I and Tier-II cities. The bigger aviation growth story belongs to air cargo with many airlines boosting their cargo fleet by using their passenger flights also to transport goods. In December 2020, the Kempegowda International Airport recorded its highest ever cargo tonnage, at 33,053 tonnes since its inception.

It is, however, not all hunky-dory. With heavy borrowings, the state's liabilities have drastically increased. Despite cost-cutting measures, the expenditure has remained unchanged with resources being diverted towards Covid-19 management including the cost of subsidies, incentives and compensations paid as part of the economic assistance package.

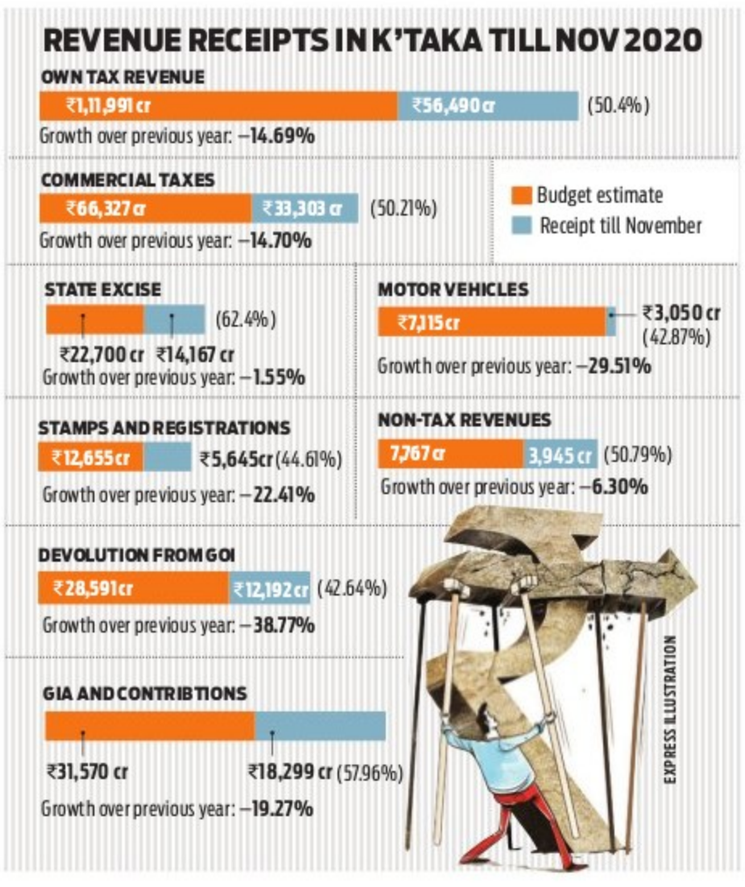
Revenue receipts are lower when compared to the corresponding period last year. As per the Finance Department's website, Karnataka's total receipts till November 2020 stood at just Rs 90,976 crore as against the budget estimate of Rs 1,80,216 crore for the 2020-2021 fiscal — just about 50.48%.

"Month after month, receipts are improving. Excise is almost on target owing to increased tax slabs. Commercial taxes too are picking up. Motor vehicles taxes and Stamps and Registration are lagging, but the overall picture is better than what was anticipated in March," said a senior official from the Finance Department.

To make up for the loss in revenue, the government has resorted to fund rationalisation by reassigning allocations from schemes and programmes that can be delayed to those that need to be implemented immediately. While the Union Government has rolled back the hike in dearness allowance, the Karnataka Government has cancelled encashment of leave for its employees among other measures to cut costs.

Officials in the Finance Department suggest that electricity tariff subsidies, tax rebates, extended repayment windows announced by the state were a gamechanger for the manufacturing sector. While entertainment, hospitality and tourism sectros are still lagging, Karnataka is confident that its citizens have not lost their purchasing power. "When you open up manufacturing and industries, you set the cycle of the economy in motion. There is production, there are jobs, there is payment/money and then there is consumption," Dr Ashwathnarayana reasoned.

(With inputs from S Lalitha, Pramod Kumar Vaidya, Arpita I and Mahesh Goudar)



SIR M. VISVESVARAYA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,
Corporate Office: # 109, Shankarmutt Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore - 560004.
Phone No.: 080-22956419 / 22956420, E-mail: corporate@vcb.co.in, Website: www.vcb.co.in

AUCTION SALE NOTICE

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Whereas, **M/s. Chourasia Infratech Pvt. Ltd.,** #22, I Cross, Aswathanagar, Marathalli, Bangalore - 560037 represented by its Directors and guarantors:- **Sri. Vijay Kumar Chourasia, Sri. Vinod Kumar Chourasia, Mamatha Chourasia & Smt. Pramila Chourasia residing at the address** No. 525/526, "Sriharinivas", II Cross, Amarjyothi Layout, West Wing, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034 and **Smt. Rajani Chourasia** Legal heir of Late Vijay Prakash Chourasia residing at No.18, I Cross, II Main, (10th Cross), Doddanekkundi, Friends Layout, Chinnappa Garden, Bangalore - 560 037 having failed to repay the debt in respect of borrowing from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore - 560 040. The total amount due and payable by them jointly and severally as per the agreed terms and conditions is **Rs. 4,80,35,002/- (Rupees Four Crore Eighty Lakhs Thirty Five Thousand and Two Only) as on 30-06-2020** with further interest + cost along with interest at the applicable rate.

Whereas the Bank has issued notice under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (4) of the Act, the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the mortgaged property including those more fully described hereunder, and the Bank has decided to sell the below mentioned property under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	DATE, TIME & PLACE OF AUCTION	RESERVE PRICE & EMD AMOUNT
SCHEDULE – I All that Piece and Parcel of the Property bearing Sy. No.40/1(portion) situated at Hancharahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli Bangalore East Taluk, earlier Bangalore South Taluk E Khatha Property No.150200401601120100 as per village panchayat E Khatha present property No.265/40/1 measuring 0 acre 25.12 guntas of converted land out of 25.75 guntas of total land and bounded on: **East by:** Land of Lakshmidevamma, **West by:** Road and property of Kempanna, **North by:** Remaining portion of Land bearing in same Sy.No.40/1, **South by:** Property of Tangaraju. **SCHEDULE – II** All that piece and parcel of the land bearing No.28/2(Old Sy No.28), situated at Doddabanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk earlier South Taluk E Khatha property No.150200401300520052, as per Village Panchayat E Khatha present property No.28/2 measuring 1 Acre 37 Guntas of converted Land out of 2 acres of total land and bounded on: **East by:** Remaining portion of same survey No. and Land belongs to Sri. Shivalingaiah, **West by:** Govt. Land Main Road, **North by:** Land belongs to Sri. Shivalingaiah, **South by:** Land belongs to Sri.Chikkabanahalli Bandappa.	**Tuesday, 09-02-2021 at 1.30 PM to 3.00 PM** **Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Shankarpuram, Bangalore.**	**Rs. 12,02,00,000/-** (Rupees Twelve Crores and Two Lakhs Only) EMD: **Rs. 1,20,20,000/-** (Rupees One Crore Twenty Lakhs and Twenty Thousand Only)

Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale:

1) Details of the property to be auctioned can be obtained from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore - 560040. (Ph. 080-22956413/414) on all working days during office hours.
2) The intending bidders should remit EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price by means of Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order / RTGS shall be drawn in favour of Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Bangalore after the date of publication of this auction Sale Notice.
3) The EMD will be accepted on the previous day of the auction that is **from 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM at Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Shankarmutt Road, Bangalore** and latest by **08-02-2021 before 10.00 A M.**
4) The property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price.
5) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refunded without interest.
6) The EMD amount shall be liable for forfeiture without prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Auction Sale.
7) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the Sale Price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft / RTGS vide RTGS No. 006016100000001 and IFSC Code MVCB0000006 and the balance of the Sale Price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
8) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues / taxes / charges / property tax / E B charges / water charges / conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
9) The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all of bid / offer and / or adjourn / postpone / cancel the Auction Sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
10) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
11) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder **between 9.30 AM and 5.00 PM** at his expenses at the address mentioned in the Schedule.
12) The property is put for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION" and terms stipulated under securatization Act 2002. The intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title, ownership, statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

For further details the intending bidders may contact the **Authorised Officer, Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., # 109, Corporate Office, Shankarmutt Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore - 560004** or **Branch Manager, Vijayanagar Branch,** during office hours for ascertaining the details of property and also for inspection of property **(Ph: 080-22956405/420/419/413/414),** E-Mail: **vij.branch@vcb.co.in**

Place : Bangalore
Date : 19-01-2021

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Limited

"I choose to live, not just exist" — James Hetfield

OPPOSITION MUST COMPETE, PRESENT 'SHADOW' BUDGET

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India
shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com

FOR decades the hoary tradition of presentation of Government of India's annual statement of accounts aka Budget has been marked by a predictable trail of events. It is customary for the ruling regimes to ratchet the rhetoric of intent and for its spin-doctors to re-present allocations as outcomes. The parties in the opposition characteristically find much wrong with the budget to whine and wail about and present a litany of lament as their contribution to the cause.

Must this be so? Acquisition of political attention and electoral allegiance in a democracy ought to be through a contest of ideas, not just a high-decibel duel. Countries following the Westminster form of governance usually form a shadow cabinet to present alternate views and challenge the reigning regime. India's national and regional parties riveted by high command culture have shied away from this onus. It is true that arguments scaffold political interests of the people whom parties profess to serve. But surely, politics cannot be an argument industry.

Why can't, rather why don't the parties in opposition present a competing alternative vision, or a 'shadow' budget? The state of the economy is not unknown — the parties in the opposition have access to data and more can be sought. For instance by January, much of what needs to be known is known — RBI data on state budgets, extent of borrowings of Centre and States, the trend in revenue collections, frequency indicators on output and exports. Many of the parties in the opposition are in power in the states, and the GST Council has a bird's eye view of performance across sectors.

Indeed, Budget 2021 is primed for a perfect segue into a summer of hectic politics. As five states —Assam, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala and West Bengal — head into elections, the context affords the opposition parties to migrate from the tired tedium of what was not done to a new medium and evangelise what can be done. For months the opposition has charged the government with not doing enough to address the consequences unleashed by the Covid19 pandemic. A shadow Budget affords parties an opportunity to showcase their ideas on how to right the wrongs and resolve the issues of lives and livelihoods.

Responsible politics entails articulation of vision and reason. The construct of 'shadow' budget would oblige the parties to move away from routine robotic rabble rousing and assign rationale on suggested actions and force a reasoned political discourse on choices and decision. It will also compel the ruling regime to explain the course of action with robust rationale.

For example, the calls to expand relief, pump prime the economy is understandable. But there is also the cost of contending compulsions such as the need to finance higher defence spending, outlay of vaccinations, recapitalisation of banks, payment of stranded dues parked in PSEs. Already the gap between expenditure and income has widened — estimates place consolidated fiscal deficit at around 14 per cent of the GDP and that of the Centre alone at over 7 per cent of GDP. The debate is less about what and more about how much can be done and how it could be funded.

It would be interesting and instructive to see how parties think about balancing the budget — that is, what could be the appropriate level of deficit, of borrowings and how to stimulate growth to sustain debt and deficit. It follows that the parties should also suggest how the government could raise the necessary resources. What would be the prescription for raising moolah include — a tax on the wealth of dollar billionaires, a one-time or phased Covid19 surcharge, suggest disinvestment of public sector banks, listing of LIC, monetisation of land, privatisation of high-speed rail routes or any other avenues?

A shadow budget could enable parties to answer many questions and outline the approach to sectoral challenges. For instance, the pandemic has exposed the decay in the health care system. Delivery of health care requires expansion of funding and capacity. Should this be through centrally sponsored schemes, or funding and devolution of powers to panchayats and municipal bodies? The shutdown of schools has impacted millions of students. Could there be a DBT for funding student access to remote learning? The collapse of businesses in the face-to-face sectors has led to job losses in urban India. Should there be a jobs guarantee scheme for urban unemployed? The agitation by farmers has revived focus on agriculture. Can policies and funding of procurement and subsidies be rejigged?

The crux is whether the parties have a playbook for the future. Revival and recovery of the economy will depend on how India prepares for emerging challenges unleashed by disruptions. The world is reconfiguring business models and supply chains following the pandemic. A lot will depend on how India can leverage the scale of its domestic market — redesign allocation of capital, reconfigure land use and reform labour laws. Would parties underwrite necessary reforms?

India's young populace is tiring of the harp orchestra — the din of harping on failings is lethargic politics. In the age of platformication, parties need to install smart politics. The political economy of the world's largest democracy hosting over a billion aspirations deserves choice, a plurality of competing ideas on issues of lives and livelihoods.

MGR COULD, JAYA COULD, RAJINI CAN'T

POINT OF VIEW

T J S GEORGE

RAJINIKANTH had publicly announced his decision to enter politics, a decision that would have changed Tamil Nadu politics drastically. He was set to reveal the name of his party on December 31. Then he fell ill. Seeing that as an order from God, he said: "I regret to announce that I am not in a position to launch a party." Why did God ask him to stay off politics when God helped many other stars to get into politics and make history? By the yardsticks other stars established, the heroic stature of Rajinikanth made him a suitable boy for politics. For many years, he resisted pressure from friends and admirers to get into politics and stuck to his filmic path.

But finally he fell. He took to the modernist device of Twitter to announce, not his political party, but his intention to form a political party. He was already on record with the statement that there was a leadership vacuum in Tamil Nadu. In the flowery language of a film script, he said: "With great support from people, in the upcoming Assembly elections, an honest righteous, transparent, corruption-free, casteless, secular and spiritual politics will be formed in Tamil Nadu for sure." He coined the hashtag '*ippo illattai eppo*' (if not now, when?) The clarion call was: Let us change, let us change everything. A Tamil phrase was devised, probably to impress locals as well as outsiders. The brave term was: Maathuvom — ellatheyum maathuvom.

What Rajini could not hide was that he had been under the BJP's pressure for long. Being essentially a northern idea, the BJP has been unable to take root in Tamil country. Rajini had to take this into account; despite his ties with BJP friends, he was forced to adopt an independent posture in the launching of his formal party. Three auspicious dates were finalised, all of them in January, for the final announcements and the formal inauguration. Then God intervened.

Rajini's bid to enter politics should not be seen as a continuation of the Tamil tradition of filmstars taking on political leadership. The gap between him and the stalwarts of an earlier era is too wide to be ignored. C N Annadurai, who brought cinema and politics together, was a thinker and a pioneer. His was not a narrow provincial mind. He understood the primal force of language in nation-building and accepted it as a factor that separated Dravida tradition from Aryavarta.

MGR apprenticed with Annadurai for long, thus qualifying as a politician. Jayalalitha, in turn, apprenticed with MGR and turned herself into a formidable politician. Rather than benefit from the film industry, these mass leaders let the film industry benefit from their politics. And let no one forget the humiliations that Jayalalitha had to go through before she attained invincibility.

Rajinikanth does not fit into MGR-Jaya shoes because, among other things, he did not have a period of apprenticeship under masters of the genre. He had no recognised veterans to mentor him. He has been only a filmic hero with no political credentials. In a land where even living gods like Sivaji Ganesan were not acceptable as political heroes, it was over-ambitious for Rajinikanth to expect god-hood on the strength of mere filmic stardom.

Rajini Gaekawad cannot eat the cake of C N Annadurai's glory and have it too. Everything is possible in filmland. Politics is different. It is a harsh field where courtesies yield to the power game

After all, there are limits that Rajinikanth must necessarily face when he is trying to cash in on Dravida pride without being Dravida. There are limits that must be taken seriously when Shivaji Rao Gaekawad wants the filmic stardom of Rajinikanth to be automatically transferred to him for purposes of partisan politics. Rajini Gaekawad cannot eat the cake of C N Annadurai's glory and have it too. Everything is possible in filmland. Politics is different. It is a harsh field where courtesies yield to the power game.

Ask Kamal Haasan. He has been acting and talking like a seasoned politician for quite a while. He even floated his own party, fondly named Makkal Needhi Maiam. But where are the *makkal* (people)? Will Rajinikanth fare any better with makkal, especially when he is tied down to a political philosophy represented by the BJP which has found no takers among his kind of *makkal*? The lesson to learn is obvious: Stardom in filmland is no automatic route to stardom in politics.

That Rajini describes his politics as spiritual betrays the confusion in him. Mixing politics with spirituality is like mixing milk with rum. The wise will have either milk or rum. The otherwise, unable to distinguish white from dark brown, will end up missing both the elixirs.

FARM LAWS, THE COURT AND THE CONSTITUTION

POWER & POLITICS

KALEESWARAM RAJ
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Follow him on Twitter @KaleeswaramR

THE Chief Justice-led bench of the Supreme Court a few days ago observed that its intervention in the issue related to the new farm laws has been "misunderstood." The court's order staying the farm laws and constituting a committee has been criticised on legal and constitutional grounds. Critics say that the constitutional court tried to act as an executive court, meaning thereby that the court attempted for a resolution of the issue so as to rescue the government. The counter view is that the court's intervention was to find out a genuine solution to the issue and to reach an amicable settlement.

The farm laws were challenged in the Supreme Court mainly on the ground that the "pith and substance" of the legislations fall within the State list under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The Seventh Schedule is like a montage. For legislative purpose, often the Centre intrudes into the State's terrain. A justification would then follow based on some entries in the Union list or in the Concurrent list. A whole statute will then be created resembling a script with the Centre's political and economic policy. The States too sometimes might commit the same mischief. In either case, threat to the scheme of the Constitution is writ large.

The pith and substance of the new farm laws is "agriculture." Agriculture, agricultural land and markets are entries 14, 18 and 28 respectively in the State list. Entry 30 of the State list includes "relief of agricultural indebtedness." Entries 45 to 48 of the same list are regarding revenue and taxation related to land or agricultural land. The Supreme Court can strike down a parliamentary law if it substantially breached the borders within the Seventh Schedule.

The judgment in Kameshwar Singh Case (1952) is a rare admonition against colourable legislation. In State of Rajasthan Vs G Chawla (1958), the court focused on the content of the statute for deciding its validity. These judgments can have a precedential value while scanning the farm laws. The Centre would try to rely on entry 33 in the Concurrent list. It is not a forbidden zone for Parliament. It is an entry about trade and commerce. It also includes food items. The Centre would thus try to justify its legislative competence on farm laws.

It is this constitutional conundrum that the Supreme Court is called upon to solve in the batch of cases. The court could not adjudicate the issue in time and, thus, it also contributed to the happenings in the street, though its role might have been secondary. The lesson: Time is the essence of constitutional adjudication. The court, of course, on January 12 stayed the laws without any legal reasoning and with a clear intention to resolve the political puzzle rather than the legal puzzle. The intervention was belated and derailed. The court's committee jurisprudence has taken a good deal of flak. The court was also criticised for its functional failure.

But the egregious insensitivity shown by the executive and the legislature also is equally serious. It needed almost the whole winter in the north for the Centre to suggest something significant, like keeping the laws in abeyance, so as to find out a viable solution to the crisis. In a deliberative democracy, legislative discourse matters. Majoritarianism is not an alibi for refusing conciliation. A regime that believes in the supremacy of the market could lose sight of the agonies and worries on the soil. The opposition too cannot boast of a finer track record on farmers' issues.

The farm laws were passed in Parliament with little or no deliberation. In spite of the protests, the laws were hurried through. Deliberative democracy requires discussion and engagement throughout the process of law making — before, during and after. The complaint of the farmers that there was no pre-consultation before initiating the laws shows the significance of prior deliberation. The stakeholders must be given an opportunity and heard before taking significant decisions that impact their interests. National justice is a sound principle even in the realm of law making.

In a democracy, legitimacy of legislation is tested on the streets, by peaceful agitations. Political movement is an important tool for ensuring democratic accountability. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the fact that a civil agitation could be launched with enormous participation is remarkable. In general, these agitations have the potential to keep the governmental actions in check. India's civil disobedience movement was historic not only due to its massive character, but on account of its roots in the ideology of non-violence. The farmers' struggle has great ethical content which is not alien to constitutionalism. This moral content is what gives strength to the movement.

In a democracy, legitimacy of legislation is tested on the streets, by peaceful agitations. Political movement is an important tool for ensuring democratic accountability. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the fact that a civil agitation could be launched with enormous participation is remarkable

Farmers have every right to seek "justice-social, economic and political" as offered by the preamble to the country's fundamental law. Minimum Support Price with a statutory backing is an indispensable variation of agricultural justice. Loss of revenue for states like Punjab and Haryana due to the abolition of mandi system could also be a federalist concern.

The country's agricultural diversity is reflected in multiple ways and the scheme of Seventh Schedule recognised it abundantly. Anything that weakens the federalist tenets could turn authoritarian, both in political and economic sense. Federalism is also synonymous with decentralisation of power.

The writer is a Supreme Court lawyer

QUOTE CORNER

Thank you #India and Prime Minister @narendramodi for your continued support to the global #COVID19 response. Only if we #ACTogether, including sharing of knowledge, can we stop this virus and save lives and livelihoods.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO director general

If Washington returns to Iran's 2015 nuclear deal, we will also fully respect our commitments under the pact. A tyrant's era came to an end and today is the final day of his ominous reign

Hassan Rouhani, Iran president

We've been informed that in addition to spreading more quickly, it also now appears that there is some evidence that the new variant (of COVID-19) may be associated with a higher degree of mortality

Boris Johnson, UK Prime Minister

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Sorry state of the Congress

Needless to say, the issue of holding presidential polls once again exposed the faultlines within the Congress. Even the word procrastination is a poor one to describe the party's attitude when it comes to presidential polls. It is an irony that Sonia Gandhi will complete two years as interim chief of the party in May after her son Rahul stepped down in 2019. The disquieting fact is that the Congress lacks decency, guts and sagacity to look for a party president beyond the Gandhis. It is an obvious pointer to the sway that dynastic politics is having over the party and the disgusting level of subservience and sycophancy prevail in it. Indecision is synonymous with today's Congress.

C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

Mindless razing of greens

The gory killing of a leopard and consumption of its meat in Kerala and that of burning an elephant to death at Masinagudi are representative of the continuing saga of wild animal-man standoff. Mutual violation of respective habitats catalyses such avoidable incidents. Man, the more 'evolved' within the animal kingdom, must stop his destructive intrusions into forests in the name of development, compromising natural habitat of animals, which in turn are forced to seek 'greener pastures' among human habitat.

Dr George Jacob, Kochi

Give Netaji his due

Those who objects Netaji's birthday being observed by the nation as Parakram Day perhaps fail to understand the personality of the legend himself. Was he not a man of valour fighting for the nation wholeheartedly? Had he not formed INA for a strong fight against the Britishers? Had he not called for the youth — 'Give me blood, and I will give you freedom'? Had he not boldly asserted: 'Do you want the fragrance of the full-blown rose? If so, you must accept the thorns'? Is Parakram, which symbolises courage, such a bad word to be denounced? Those, who failed to give due respect and honour to the great soul during their regime, now are doing petty politics. It's disgusting, shameful.

Jitendranath Guru, Padampur

Censorship and social media

This has reference to the news 'Anti-government social media posts a crime in Bihar'. Every citizen has a right to criticise the government, officials and bureaucracy upon inefficiency and delay in the services of the administration and if dishonesty and fraudulence are detected. Otherwise, it would be like self-patting or self-certification by the government. Criticism is a course correction way for the government. It creates caution and awareness to the ruling establishment. In a way, social media is a blessing in disguise to the common man to express his views and for the ruling establishment also since it becomes a moral keeper. Selection of words is very important. In an unoffending and unprovoked manner, citizens have the power to take on the rulers. Commenting with disparagement and humiliation need to be eschewed. Viola Spolin, American Theatre academic, said, 'We have freedom of speech but you got to watch what you say!'

S Arjun Prasanna, Bengaluru

Protests in a democracy

Protests against the policies of the regime is invariable for a sustainable democracy. However, it turns out to be chaotic when it's against the government, instead of its policies. This can be well-perceived in the way the developments in the farm agitation is concerned. One wonders, what could have been a better solution than putting on hold the laws for 18 months for the farmers' unions to withdraw the agitation. It's well-known that there are vested interests lurking around for an opportunity to strike against the nation. Ironically, even those with a strong faith in democratic values fall to false promises. Remember, governments come and go, but our system should stay for a long.

Bijumon PN, Idukki

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Amit Shah @Amit Shah
Courage and valour of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose gave new strength to the Indian freedom struggle... I pay my heartfelt tributes

Sachin Pilot @SachinPilot
By rejecting farmers' demands and suppressing the call of justice, the Centre has hurt the dignity and democratic system of the country

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
What does Modi do? Modi partners with 3-4 big businessmen in this country. They provide him media and he provides them money

Land ownership certificates will ensure *swabhiman* of people: PM

Modi distributes *pattas* in Assam, says it will allow owners to avail Central scheme benefits

Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributes 'land patta' during a public meeting at Jerenga Pathar in Sivasagar district of Assam on Saturday | PTI

It is sad that after so many years since independence, lakhs of indigenous families in Assam did not have legal rights to their land. They remained landless. But their lives will now be better
—Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the lives of lakhs of people in Assam would be better as they were allotted land '*pattas*' (certificates) on Saturday.

"The land ownership certificates (*pattas*) will guarantee their 'Swabhiman' (pride), Swadheenta (freedom) and Suraksha (protection)," the prime minister asserted.

"It is sad that after so many years since independence, lakhs of indigenous families in Assam did not have legal rights to their land. They remained landless. But their lives will now be better," Modi said after participating in the distribution of over one lakh land *pattas* at a programme at Jerenga Pathar in Assam's Sivasagar.

Over 2.5 lakh others were allotted the certificates earlier. The PM said when the BJP government came to power in 2016, there were over six lakh such families with no legal rights to their land. "They (those allotted land *pattas*) can enjoy the benefits of several central government schemes such as PM KISAN Samman Nidhi, Kisan Credit Card, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and other schemes and easily avail loans from the banks," he said.

Referring to Bharat Ratna Bhupen Hazarika's couplets, which means "mother earth, give me a place at your feet, What would a farmer do without you? Without land he would be helpless," Modi said the government's aim is to give legal rights to the land of the state's indigenous population.

"Rapid development and social protection of the tribals in Assam has been the commitment of the government. Many steps have also been taken to encourage Assamese language and literature."

"Similarly, the great personalities of every community have been honoured. Over the past four and a half years, many efforts have been made to preserve the historical objects of religious and spiritual importance. Rapid steps are also being taken to clear encroachment and improve the Kaziranga National Park," Modi said.

Stating that the government is taking the benefits of development to all sections, he said steps were taken to uplift the status of tea garden workers who suffered for a long time due to neglect. The PM said peace returned to Assam after the signing of the historic Bodo Accord. Modi also announced that the government was taking steps to include Sivasagar in five most archaeological sites in country.

INTERVIEW

'HEALTHCARE WORKERS SHOULDN'T FEAR JABS, VACCINATION SAFE'

EMPHASISING that vaccines, which have been approved for restricted use **Dr Samiran Panda**, Head, Division of Epidemiology & Communicable Diseases (ICMR) and member, national expert group on Covid vaccine administration, in conversation with **Sumi Sukanya Dutta** said recruitment of greater number of participants is necessary for examinations of the shots.

As the Covid-19 vaccination programme has begun, there seems to be some vaccine hesitancy among healthcare workers. How seriously is that being taken?
Healthcare workers are more susceptible to infection due to the nature of their occupation and if we compromise on their health it will adversely impact upon the entire healthcare system. Therefore, it is right to consider them under priority groups for vaccination. Vaccines, which have been approved for restricted use, are safe, and they are also immunogenic. Healthcare workers therefore need not be afraid of taking it. The decision to take or not to take a vaccine is an individual choice. Hesitancy is normal but overcoming it is superlative.

There is some confusion on the efficacy of Covishield and phase 3 trials for Covaxin are still underway...There is a concern that enough confidence building measures have not been taken. Your views?
Innovative regulatory measures, such as restricted use in an emergency situation, are the need of the hour. Not only in India, but scientists all across the globe worked hard to make vaccines within such a short span. The Covishield package insert presents different time gaps between administrations of the two doses of the vaccine in a tabular form next to the respective efficacy data. Subgroup analysis is also presented showing higher efficacy of the vaccine with greater time interval of administration. Over 70 percent when the gap is 12 weeks, whereas the efficacy was a little over 50 percent when the two shots of the vaccine are administered with an interval of 4-6 weeks. To establish such differences, one needs to examine these issues with recruitment of greater number of participants. In a pandemic of this nature, one preferably would not wait for 12 weeks to administer two doses of a vaccine because one, many things change including the disease transmission dynamics. Second, people may forget to take the second dose. Third, people may need to move to some other place for whatever reason.

The restricted emergency use authorization granted to Covaxin says that it will be used in "clinical trial mode." To begin with the government has procured 55 million doses of the vaccine. Does it mean that all those who receive the vaccine will be actively followed up?
First, 'clinical trial mode' is not a clinical trial and under such a modality, comparisons are not aimed at. In a clinical trial mode, the recipient of a vaccine is monitored with a greater rigor once she/he opts in for administration of the vaccine in concern. While the phase-III trial is ongoing, Covaxin has been concurrently made available for restricted use in emergency situation. Preclinical studies, results of the phase I clinical trial as well as data generated on immunogenicity of the vaccine from phase II human trial read with the provisions under the new drugs and clinical trial rules paved the path for restricted use in emergency situation.

Many epidemiologists also believe that a considerable amount of herd immunity may already have set in. Do you think the majority of the country would still need shots before the pandemic is under control?
Yes, the epidemic curve is on a decline but we must also remember that India's heterogeneity exists between the states in terms of disease transmission dynamics. There are states where the second and third waves of the infection have been noticed. Also, there are states with case fatality rate above the national average. Moreover, new mutants are making their appearances.

What do you think about a man who died in Bhopal after vaccination and also one of the participants had died even though it has been clarified that it may have nothing to do with vaccination. Your thoughts?
I am aware that the death, you have been talking about, has been reported to the concerned institutions as per trial protocol as the deceased individual was one of the trial participants. However, the causal link of the death did not get established with the investigational product – the vaccine.

For full interview visit www.newindianexpress.com

CHARGE SHEET

Radical group 'Shahadat is our Goal' in NIA net

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday filed charge sheet against ten "terrorists belonging to a radical group 'Shahadat is our Goal' for advocating violent jihad".

Filing a charge sheet in a special NIA court at Chennai, the agency said that the accused had created various social media groups, especially on WhatsApp and were disseminating materials advocating violent jihad, including the videos and speeches of the Sri Lankan ISIS/ Daish leader Zahran Hashim. NIA has also alleged that two accused tried to carry out terror attacks in the country.

Ten people have been charged with relevant sections of the IPC, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Arms Act.

The case was registered in April 2018 under sections of the IPC, the UAPA and the Arms Act in Tamil Nadu's Ramanathapuram district after the arrest of Mohamed Rifas, Muparish Ahamed and Abupakkar Sithik from Keelakarai, a spokesperson of the NIA said.

Lethal weapons, including swords, along with pamphlets pertaining to the Tamil Nadu based terrorist gang "Shahadat is our Goal" were seized from their possession, NIA officials said.

The charge sheeted accused were radicalised by violent jihadi ideology, the NIA spokesperson said.

Haryana cops question man over 'conspiracy' to disrupt farmers' protest

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

During 'Kisan Sansad' in New Delhi | PTI

THE Haryana Police are questioning a youth nabbed by protesting farmers, who accused him of being part of a conspiracy hatched to kill four of the union leaders and also disrupt their tractor parade on Republic Day so as to give the police authorities an excuse to crack down on them.

The farmer union leaders claimed the youth they caught on Friday night on Singhu border had confessed to being part of a group of ten people who had been instructed to create disturbance during the tractor parade. Presenting the masked youth before media personnel, the farmers alleged the plan was that he would open fire in the air, giving Delhi Police a pretext to 'retaliate' strongly.

The youth told reporters that his accomplices were asked to be in police uniforms and baton-charge the crowd during the tractor rally.

The youth claimed his handlers had promised to give him ₹10,000. He was later handed over the youth to Haryana Police.

Rakesh Tikait of Bharatiya Kisan Union said, "It is now a matter of investigation as to who will benefit from disturbing our agitation." He, however, added, "We cannot guarantee whether this youth is speaking the truth or not."

Farmer leader Kulwant Singh Sandhu alleged, "Attempts are being made by agencies to disrupt the farmers' agitation. This youth revealed an alleged plot to shoot four farmer leaders. We cannot divulge the names of those leaders, as he showed us their photos on his mobile phone."

Another farmer leader, Jagjeet Singh Dallewal, said, "This youth told us 50-60 others are also now among the protesting farmers and at two places, weapons have already reached to be used to disrupt the parade." While the youth's identity was not revealed on Friday, a video surfaced on social media on Saturday in which he identifies himself as Yogesh and claims whatever he said the previous night was because he was threatened by farmer leaders. The youth, who claims he belongs to Sonipat, says he and four others were held hostage by the farmers who claimed they had killed the others and would kill him too, if he refused to narrate the conspiracy story before the media.

A police official said, "No case has been registered till now and a SIT has been formed which is inquiring into this incident...It seems that this youth gave the statement under pressure."

EXPRESS READ

Safeguard rights of transgenders: Centre

The Centre has written to the states and UTs, directing them to sensitise police and prison officials on protection of rights of transgenders. In the communication, the MHA has also asked them to take required measures immediately for rescue and rehabilitation of transgenders.The letter stated that law mandates adequate steps to be taken by the State Governments/UTs for not only providing for welfare measures to be taken but steps to be taken for rescue, protection and rehabilitation of a transgender person.

World applauds India's effort in supplying vaccine

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE new US administration led by President Joe Biden has heaped praises on India for supplying vaccines to many countries and said India is a true friend who is using its pharma sector to help the global community.

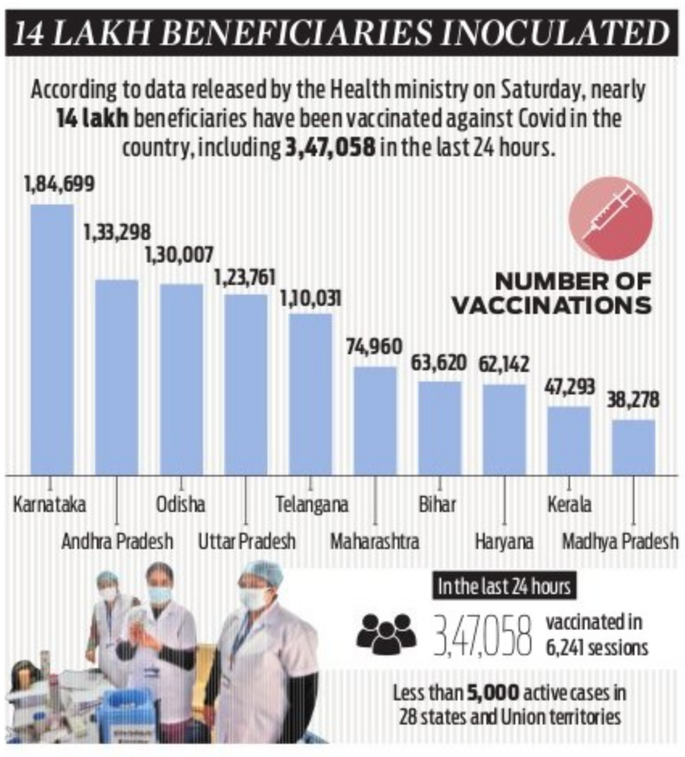
"We applaud India's role in global health, sharing millions of doses of Covid vaccine in South Asia. India's free shipments of vaccine began with Maldives, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal and will extend to others. India's a true friend using its pharma to help the global community," the US State Department tweeted.

So far, India has provided vaccine on a grant basis to Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Maldives keeping in mind its Neighbourhood Policy. While 150000 doses of Covisheild vaccine were sent to Bhutan and 100000 doses to the Maldives, 2 million doses of Covid-19 vaccines were provided to Bangladesh and 1 million doses to Nepal.

Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has also lauded India's efforts in providing vaccines to the world. "Thank you, India & Prime Minister Narendra Modi for your continued support to global #COVID19 response. Only if we act together, including sharing of knowledge, can we stop this virus and save lives and livelihoods," he tweeted.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has thanked India for supplying vaccines to his country and shared on social media an illustration of Lord Hanuman bringing *'Sanjivani booti'* from India to Brazil.

Bolsonaro said, "Namaskar, Prime Minister@narendramodi. Brazil feels honoured to have a great partner to overcome a global obstacle by joining efforts."



LAC talks today after three-month freeze

MAYANK SINGH @New Delhi

THE corps commanders of the Indian Army and the Chinese PLA are slated to meet on Sunday for the ninth round of talks to find ways to resolve the protracted tension along the line of actual control in eastern Ladakh.

Confirming the development, a senior Army officer said, "The talks will be held in Moldo opposite the Chushul sector in India." The last corps commander-level talks between the two countries were held on November 6 in Chushul. The Indian side will be led for the first time by 14 Corps commander Lt Gen P G K Menon. While the meeting will mean a breaking of ice after a freeze of nearly three months, defence analysts and former officers do not expect much because of the environment of mistrust between the armies of the two countries.

Unless we resolve the LAC issues we must not vacate the Kailash Range. If the PLA moves its troops back, it will be a loss of face at home on the centenary year of the Communist Party
Maj Gen S B Asthana (Retd)

Lt Gen Rajan Bakshi (retd), who commanded 14 Corps, said a breakthrough can only be achieved at the diplomatic level and military talks are unlikely to yield any result.

Recalling a three-week faceoff in south Depsang in 2013, Lt Gen Bakshi said he led the talks from the Indian side at that time but it was the joint study group that ultimately resolved the standoff.

Maj Gen S B Asthana (Retd) said "we must not hope too much" because the trust deficit was high. He said the northern neighbour was celebrating the Communist Party of China's centenary and in this situation "if PLA moves its troops back it will be a loss of face in front of domestic audience."

He said even if the Chinese troops withdraw from the eyeball-to-eyeball situation, they can be back at will because of the kind of infrastructure they have created in those areas.

Centre effects major bureaucratic reshuffle

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

SENIOR IAS officer Alok Tandon has been appointed mines secretary as part of a major top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre.

Tandon, a 1986-batch IAS officer, is at present serving in UP.

Tribal Affairs Secretary Deepak Khandekar has been appointed Secretary, DoPT.

Upendra Prasad Singh, Secretary of Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, will now be secretary, Ministry of Textiles. Pankaj Kumar who is currently Chief Executive Officer, UIDAI has been appointed secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, in place of Singh.

Senior bureaucrat Alok Kumar has been appointed secretary, Ministry of Power. He has been appointed in place of Sanjeev Nandan Sahai, who superannuates on January 31.

Rajesh Kumar Chaturvedi has been appointed secretary, Department of Fertilizers. Chaturvedi, a 1987-batch IAS officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre, is currently secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

Arvind Singh, who is at present chairman of the Airports Authority of India, has been appointed as the tourism secretary in place of Tripathy.

GV Venugopala Sarma, Member Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority has been named chairman, National Authority, Chemical Weapons Convention, it said.

HOMECOMING

A cattle herder from Gujarat's Kutch district, who had inadvertently crossed over to Pakistan in 2008 and was arrested there on charges of spying, has finally returned to India, said officials

5 DIED — VEHICLE FELL INTO GORGE IN NANDURBAR, MAHARASHTRA

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	27	12	Mumbai	31	21
Bhopal	28	9	Panaji	32	21
Jaipur	23	6	Patna	25	12
Amritsar	16	4	Lucknow	25	13
Chennai	30	20	Port Blair	30	22
Kolkata	27	19	Imphal	25	6
Srinagar	29	14	Chandigarh	22	6

Photo of tunnel tweeted by BSF

UNDERGROUND INFILTRATION

The Border Security Force (BSF) on Saturday discovered an underground tunnel in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district. A BSF spokesperson said this was made by Pakistani outfits to facilitate the infiltration of terrorists. This is the second such secret passage found in the last 10 days and fourth in the last six months

Where: Tunnel detected along International Border in Pansar area between Border Post No 14 and 15, near BSF outpost in Hiranagar sector

Since when: Appears to be 6-8 years old and would have been used for infiltration by Pakistani terrorists

30 feet UNDER 150m LENGTH

BSF **shot down Pakistani hexacopter** carrying weapons and ammunition in June, 2020, in the same area.

BSF **troops foiled infiltration** bid in the same area in November 2019

OTHER TUNNELS FOUND IN LAST SIX MONTHS

Jan 13: 150m tunnel found in Hiranagar sector of Kathua district

Nov 22, 2020: 150m tunnel about 15-20 feet under the ground found in Ganghith in Samba sector

Aug 28, 2020: 20-foot long tunnel with 3-4 feet diameter near border fencing in Basantar in Samba district

10 TUNNELS discovered in Jammu region in last few years

One more terror tunnel found near Pak border

Second tunnel discovered in 10 days and fourth in six months

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Border Security Force (BSF) on Saturday found a 150-metre long tunnel along the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district. They believe it was used by Pakistan to push terrorists into India for six to eight years. This is the second tunnel discovered in 10 days by BSF and fourth in the last six months along the border in Samba, Hiranagar and Kathua districts.

According to officials, the tunnel appears to be six to eight years old and would have been used for infiltration over that duration. "It is very important to detect all the tunnels built by Pakistani military and its terrorists because the infiltration of terrorists through these tunnels is one of the biggest challenges that security forces face," a senior security officer said.

Officers say that with tight border surveillance in place at the LoC, these tunnels have become a crucial route for militants carrying arms and ammunition to launch attacks in the valley.

Another 150-metre tunnel was detected by BSF in Hiranagar sector of Kathua district on January 13. Before that, a 150-metre long tunnel suspected to be used by four Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorists for infiltration from Pakistan was detected by the BSF in November last year. It was found following an investigation into an encounter near Nagrota. Four Kashmir-bound Pakistani terrorists were killed in a gunfight when the truck they were travelling in was stopped. BSF director general Rakesh Asthana had ordered the force to step up efforts to detect tunnels after the encounter.

NETAJI EVENT

Centre announces award in name of Netaji

Rajendra Kumar Bhandari, who laid the foundation of scientific studies on geo hazards, was on Saturday selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for 2021 for his work in disaster management, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Bose had no patience for communal politics: Left

A few days after the BJP-led central government declared Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday as Parakram Diwas, the CPI(M) on Saturday said Netaji had no patience for communal politics. He criticises the Hindu Mahasabha in his book '*Indian Struggle*', said the Left party.

Film screening by IFFI to mark birth centenary

The 51st International Film Festival of India joined the celebrations of the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on Saturday with the special screening of the film 'Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose: The Forgotten Hero' by director Shyam Benegal in 2005.

Shah-Nadda duo to lead WB campaign

MANISH ANAND @ New Delhi

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP chief JP Nadda will carry out a joint campaign of the saffron outfit in West Bengal before the Assembly elections. The two will lead five '*rath yatras*' across the state to boost the party's chances in a desperate battle against Mamata Banerjee's TMC.

Still to project a face for the chief minister's position, the two BJP heavyweights will also welcome those jumping ship from TMC.

Since the BJP has not yet decided who would be the party's choice for the top spot in the state cabinet if it forms the government, observers feel the party will build the campaign in such a way that the focus stays on the star campaigners for the moment.

While Shah is likely to lead three rath yatras, Nadda will head two, sources said. They added that route details are being chalked out and the first of the yatras will be flagged off in a few days.

Like in the Bihar assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to join the campaigning in the last leg in the role of a finisher to help the party consolidate its support base and woo the fence-sitters.

Shah, a former BJP chief himself, had missed much of the campaigning in Bihar. But he will be fully in action in West Bengal, with party leaders stressing that the political turf over there suits him better, like in Uttar Pradesh.

Focus on star campaigners

Since the BJP has not said yet who would be the party's choice for CM post if they form the government, observers feel they will build the campaign in such a way that the focus stays on the star campaigners for the moment

While the West Bengal unit of the BJP is led by Dilip Ghosh, the party appears not too keen on having him as a leading campaigner due to his limited mass appeal. The BJP will be banking on sub-regional satraps such as Suvendhu Adhikari to help Shah-Nadda attract crowds and send out a message to the voters that the saffron outfit can dislodge Mamata's government.

Ruled by the Left for over 30 years and for a decade by TMC, West Bengal is headed for a battle between BJP and TMC this time. The last few weeks have seen important members of the TMC switching over to BJP and party leaders are confident that this number will increase in the coming days.

VARYING MOODS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and CM Mamata Banerjee arrive for the Netaji event at Victoria Memorial on Saturday | PTI

EXPRESS READ

Bird hit delays flight at Patna airport

PATNA: A major accident was averted at Jai Prakash Narayan International Airport in Patna on Saturday when a bird collided with the Patna-bound flight of Bangalore-Patna-Bengaluru Vistara Airlines Flight UK 717. However, the pilot acted with caution and made a safe landing of the aircraft with 72 passengers. Some passengers said initially panic had gripped the passengers but the pilots' handling of the sitution saved their lives. As a consequence, the return flight to Bengaluru with 151 passengers was delayed by several hours. Airport director BCH Negi termed the incident as a "minor technical snag".

Naming of Maha Cong chief deferred

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE Congress has put on hold announcing the name of the next president of its Maharashtra unit. It was more or less confirmed that the post would go to Maharashtra Assembly Speaker **Nana Patole**. But it is learnt that the decision was deferred following Patole's demand that he be made a minister in the Maha Vikas Aghadi government.

The central leadership of Congress had decided to replace incumbent state Congress president Balasaheb Thorat with Patole, considering that he could devote more time and energy in expanding the party base. It was said in certain quarters that since Thorat is the Legislative Party leader in the Assembly, revenue minister and state party president, he was unable to do justice to his role in the state unit. With the NCP and Shiv Sena aggressively expanding their reach, the Congress leadership felt they were falling behind.

According to Congress sources, Patole's promotion to the president's post was finalised and the file was also signed by Sonia Gandhi. "But Patole demanded that along with the president's responsibility, he should be also made the minister of energy or PWD. However, this demand has surprised the Congress president and she refused to give him the go ahead. That has resulted in a delay in announcing the new president," said a well-placed source requesting anonymity.

Another source said that the party high command wanted the new state president to concentrate solely on that role. "But Patole suddenly added another demand that surprised the high command, which decided against taking a decision right now," the source further said.

JAIL TOURISM

Now, visit this Pune prison for the right reasons

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

IN its attempt to popularise historical places, the Maharashtra government has decided to start 'jail tourism' with Pune's Yerawada prison being thrown open to the public on January 26.

"This is the first such initiative in the country. We want to bring the young generation closer to historically important places and events," said Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh.

The 150-year-old Yerawada Jail is South Asia's largest where several eminent freedom fighters were incarcerated by the colonial British government. Some of them are Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, Motilal Nehru, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The prisons in Thane, Nashik and Ratnagiri will also be a part of 'jail tourism'.

The Yerawada jail was witness to the historic Poona Pact, which was signed between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr BR Ambedkar on September 24, 1932, under a mango tree for reservation of electoral seats for repressed classes. The places in Yerawada where freedom fighters stayed are also maintained and named after them. In recent years, Yerawada jail gained popularity following the hanging of Mumbai terror attack convict Azmal Kasab

Deshmukh said the government has preserved memories of great leaders of India at Yerawada. "Rather than hiding these important places within the jail, we have decided to showcase them. This is the first great step towards jail tourism," said Deshmukh.

Guides will be provided to visitors and ticket prices will range from ₹5 to ₹50. Due to the pandemic situation, only 50 visitors will be allowed daily.

CM Uddhav Thackeray and Deputy CM Ajit Pawar will inaugurate the initiative. The government has also decided to open the Assembly building to the visitors. A formal announcement will be made shortly following a meet between tourism minister Aaditya Thackeray and Speaker Nana Patole.

RAJE INCLUDED IN KEY BJP PANEL TO PATCH UP RIFT

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN a sign that the BJP high command is keen on patching up the rift in its Rajasthan unit, the party included former chief minister **Vasundhara Raje** in its high-powered core committee for the state. After the saffron party lost Assembly elections in Rajasthan two years ago, its state unit has been keeping Raje out of party forums. But now, with BJP national president JP Nadda including her in the 16-member core committee, Raje seems to be making a comeback.

Besides Raje, three Union ministers from Rajasthan — Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Arjun Ram Meghwal and Kailash Chaudhari — are also a part of the BJP's core group for Rajasthan. In addition, BJP state president Satish Poonia, leader of opposition in the Assembly Gulabchand Kataria, Lok Sabha MPs Kankamal Katara and CP Joshi, Rajya Sabha MP Rajendra Gahlot are other members of this core group.

Raje's inclusion in the core group is being seen as an effort to end the quarrel in the Rajasthan BJP, especially between Raje loyalists and the RSS faction headed by Poonia. Besides, the local body elections and by-elections to four Assembly seats are forthcoming and this move is being seen as a bid to present a united face of the party.

The fresh move comes barely a fortnight after she was not invited to a meeting in Delhi where Nadda had summoned three top leaders from the state. In a direct challenge to the central leadership of the BJP, the supporters of Raje had openly demanded the party high command to declare her as the CM candidate in the next elections. Though Raje remained silent on the issue, political observers say it was a show of defiance at her behest.

Also, just a day after that Delhi meeting, Raje supporters had formed a 'Vasundhara Raje Samarthak Rajasthan Manch'. The announcement of the Manch had led to major rift within the Rajasthan BJP. Poonia had reacted sharply though it was pointed out that his loyalists, too, had made a similar forum in Poonia's name.

POOR HEALTH

Lalu shifted to Delhi AIIMS by special flight

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

JAILED RJD chief Lalu Prasad was admitted to AIIMS-Delhi on Saturday night after his health condition deteriorated while undergoing treatment at a hospital in Ranchi.

He was taken to Delhi from Ranchi on a special flight on Saturday. He was accompanied by a team of doctors and family members, including wife Rabri Devi and son Tejaswi. As of now, he will be in Delhi for a month.

The decision to shift the 72-year-old was taken by an eight-member medical board on Friday. Tests confirmed that he is suffering from pneumonia. Lalu also has hypertension, diabetes, heart and kidney ailments. He had complained of breathing problems on Thursday, following which a Covid-19 test was done. The report came negative.

The former CM of Bihar also underwent high-resolution computed tomography (HRCT), which indicated a lung infection. A medical board headed by Dr Umesh Prasad was constituted to review his condition. "He will be shifted to AIIMS for better treatment. A team of doctors will be present with him," said Dr Prasad, who was leading the team of doctors taking care of him at Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Ranchi.

Snow sculpting competition in Gulmarg

In a first, a four-day snow sculpting competition was held in the world famous ski resort of Gulmarg to provide a platform to the budding artists to showcase their talent on the snow. In the competition, over 30 artists, both amateur and professional sculptures, participated. The participants competed in teams and also as individuals to hand carve unique art works on themes depicting Kashmir culture, heritage, life and nature. Director of Tourism, Nisar Ahmad Wani said, "We are also planning to develop an ice park and promote this tourism product in a big way."

FAYAZ WANI
Our correspondent in Jammu and Kashmir
fayazwani123@gmail.com

SRINAGAR DIARY

Tricolour to be hoisted on govt buildings on R-Day

The UT administration in J&K has made it mandatory to hoist the Tricolour atop all government offices and buildings on Republic Day. An order issued by the additional secretary to government, Rohit Sharma, said, "It is impressed upon all the administrative secretaries/divisional commissioners/deputy commissioners/ heads of the departments and managing directors of all PSUs/corporations to ensure that Tricolor is flown on all government offices and buildings across Jammu and Kashmir on Republic Day. Lt Governor Manoj Sinha will preside over the main Republic Day function at Maulana Azad Stadium, Jammu. In a separate order, the government has asked officials of government departments to attend the function as a part of their official duty.

Schools to reopen from February 1

The Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered reopening of schools in the Union Territory in a phased manner from February 1. According to an official order, classes from 9 to 12 in Jammu region will open from February 1 while the elementary classes in the region will start from February 8. The schools in Kashmir region and winter zone areas of Jammu division, which are observing winter vacation, will open after the completion of winter vacation. All schools in J&K were closed in March 2020 after the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic.

Kashmir's youngest commercial pilot

At 20, Farhan Majeed has become the youngest commercial pilot in Kashmir. Hailing from Awantipora area of Pulwama district, Farhan recently obtained a commercial pilot's license from the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). He started training as a commercial pilot at the Uttarakhand-based 'Global Konnect Aviation Services' in 2018 after passing his class 12 exams. Farhan says he was fascinated by aircraft since his childhood and it was his dream to become a pilot. Farhan belongs to an educated family. His father is a mathematics lecturer while his mother is also a teacher. Farhan is now waiting to fly high.

250 killed in tribal clashes in Sudan's Darfur region, UN refugee agency said on Saturday

US PRESIDENT TO REVIEW AFGHAN WITHDRAWAL DEAL

Wants to assess the Taliban's progress in cutting ties with terror groups, reducing violence

US First Lady Jill Biden greets members of the National Guard with chocolate chip cookies outside the Capitol in Washington DC on Friday | AFP

WASHINGTON

THE Joe Biden administration said on Friday it will review a landmark US deal with the Taliban, focusing on whether the insurgent group has reduced attacks in Afghanistan, in keeping with its side of the agreement.

Washington struck a deal with the Taliban in Qatar last year, to begin withdrawing its troops in return for security guarantees from the militants and a commitment to kickstarting peace talks with the Afghan government.

But violence across Afghanistan has surged despite the two sides engaging in those talks since September.

President Joe Biden's newly appointed national security advisor, Jake Sullivan, spoke with his Afghan counterpart Hamdullah Mohib and "made clear the United States' intention to review" the deal, National Security Council spokeswoman Emily Horne said.

Specifically, Washington wants to check that the Taliban is "living up to its commitments to cut ties with terrorist groups, to reduce violence in Afghanistan, and to engage in meaningful negotiations with the Afghan government and other stakeholders," her statement continued.

It added that Sullivan "underscored that the US will support the peace process with a robust and regional diplomatic effort, which will aim to help the two sides achieve a durable and just political settlement and permanent ceasefire."

Sullivan also discussed the United States' support for protecting recent progress made on women and minority groups' rights as part of the peace process. The move was met with a sigh of relief from officials in Kabul after months of speculation over how the new administration would potentially recalibrate its Afghan policy.

Mohib, the Afghan national security advisor, tweeted that during the call the two sides "agreed to work toward a permanent ceasefire and a just and durable peace" in the country.

Another top Afghan government official lambasted the Taliban's failure to live up to the February 2020 deal, saying the agreement had failed,d to achieve its stated goals. *AFP*

Don's trial may begin on Feb 8

WASHINGTON

FORMER US president Donald Trump's Senate trial will begin in the second week of February, days after a fresh impeachment case against the former president is transmitted by the House, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said Friday.

The newly announced schedule reflects a deal struck by Senate leaders to delay the substantive portion of the trial for two weeks so that the chamber may conduct other critical business including confirmation of President Joe Biden's cabinet nominees.

The House of Representatives impeached Trump for a historic second time on January 13, just one week before he left office.

Schumer said the article of impeachment will be delivered and read out to the Senate on Monday at 7:00 pm (0000 GMT Tuesday). The chamber's 100 members will be sworn in as trial jurors the next day. The House members assigned by Speaker Nancy Pelosi as impeachment managers, and members of Trump's yet-to-be-named defense team, will then be given time to draft their legal briefs.

"Once the briefs are drafted, presentation by the parties will commence the week of February 8," Schumer told colleagues on the Senate floor.

During the two-week interim, the Senate will act on Biden's cabinet

Former US president Donald Trump

nominations "and the Covid relief bill which would provide relief for millions of Americans who are suffering during this pandemic," Schumer added.

"Healing and unity will only come if there is truth and accountability, and that is what this trial will provide."

Members will deliberate whether to convict Trump on what the US Constitution describes as "high crimes and misdemeanors."

Trump was impeached on a single charge of "incitement of insurrection" for his role in whipping up his supporters during a speech in Washington on January 6, the day a pro-Trump mob stormed Congress and threatened the lives of lawmakers and then-vice president Mike Pence.

Five people died in the violence, including a police officer.

The delay is the result of a deal Schumer struck with Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell. *AFP*

Trump nearly fired AG over poll results

Former US president Donald Trump considered replacing then-acting US attorney general Jeffrey A. Rosen with a Justice Department lawyer who would help him force Georgia officials to overturn the state's election result. He decided against the move when told that all remaining top officials would resign en masse if the plan went ahead

Biden dials Trudeau in 1st call abroad

In his first call to a foreign leader as US President, Joe Biden spoke with Canadian counterpart Justin Trudeau Friday on a number of topics and made plans to continue the conversation next month, Ottawa and Washington said

Heads of 3 US govt-funded channels abruptly fired

WASHINGTON

THE heads of three federally-funded international broadcasters were abruptly fired late Friday as the Biden administration completed a house-cleaning of Donald Trump-appointees at the US Agency for Global Media.

Two officials familiar with the changes said the acting chief of the USAGM summarily dismissed the directors of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks just a month after they had been named to the posts.

The changes came a day after the director of the Voice of America and his deputy were removed and the chief of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting stepped down. The firings follow the forced resignation of former President Donald Trump's handpicked choice to lead USAGM only two hours after Joe Biden took office on Wednesday. *AP*

Whopping 40% pay hike to PLA troopers

BEIJING

PERSONNEL of the two million-strong Chinese military would get a bumper 40 per cent pay hike from this year as part of the efforts by the ruling Communist Party led by President Xi Jinping to transform the "bloated" People's Liberation Army into a "more modern, nimble fighting force". An official announcement on the pay increase for the world's largest military is expected soon, Hong Kong-based *South China Morning Post* reported on Saturday, quoting unnamed military officials.

The "bumper" 40 per cent increase followed a number of sweeping reforms intended to transform the "bloated People's Liberation Army (PLA), into a more modern, nimble fighting force', the report said.

Starting this year, China has revised its National Defence Law (NDL), expanding the power of the Central Military Commission (CMC) headed by Xi. CMC is the overall high command of the Chinese military.

The new law empowers the CMC to mobilise military and civilian resources in defence of national interests. The pay boost aims to attract and retain talent, while also encouraging promising young officers to have faith in the ongoing changes, the Post report said. "I am so happy as I am going to receive an additional income of up to 7,000 yuan," an unnamed colonel said. *PTI*

EXPRESS READ

1K held amid rally against Putin in Moscow

Moscow: Russian police on Saturday detained more than 1,000 protesters, including the wife of jailed Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny, as several thousands took to the streets nationwide to denounce President Vladimir Putin's rule. Thousands of people, including teenagers, packed Moscow's central Pushkin Square and nearby streets as riot police hauled off demonstrators and beat others with batons. Among those detained were Navalny's wife Yulia Navalnaya and his prominent aide Lyubov Sobol. Journalists reported seeing several protesters left badly injured after clashing with police in Moscow. "What a joy that you are here!" Navalnaya wrote before being detained and posting a picture of herself from inside a police van. The protests in Moscow were estimated to be the largest demonstrators since 2019 when Navalny supporters rallied to demand free local elections. AFP

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XXXVIII ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT BANGALORE
C. MIS. NO. 50/2020

Between : 1. Pavithra W/o Late Veeramudi, aged about 37 years, No. 66, 23rd Cross, Krishnaiah Layout, Ittamadu, Near SLV Bakery, BSK III Stage, Bengaluru-560085, **2. Javaregowda K.B.** S/o Late Bettegowda, No. 8/8, 9th C Main, 6th Cross, Srinivasnagar, Near Rajarajeshwari Temple, Bengaluru-560052.

And : The Commissioner, Registrar of Births and Deaths, Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore **...Respondent**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioners named above have filed the above petition seeking direction to Birth and Death represented by the Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru to register the death of the deceased who is the father-in-law of 1st petitioner and father of 2nd petitioner who was by name **Sri BETTAPPA S/o Kengegowda, who died on 09.03.2019** death place is at Vinayaka Ashrama, Kengeri, Bengaluru and issue the direction accordingly for the death certificate.

Any person interested and having any objection in this matter may appear before the above court at 11.00 a.m. on **27-01-2021** to which date the case is posted for hearing.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on 20-01-2021.

By order of the Court, Sheristedar, XXXVIII ADDL. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioners: **Smt. MEENAKSHI K.** No. 17/5, 9th Cross, Near Banappa Park, Cubbonpet, Bengaluru-560001.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my clients intend to purchase the schedule property jointly or severally from **Sri Abdul Manaf K. alias Abdul Manaf** S/o. Kunhamu, R/a. No.58/1,Khazi Street, Mohammedan Block, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004 and Smt. Asha Kumari B.T. W/o. Govinde Gowda, No.21,Eranapalya Road, Papireddy Palya, Nagarabhavi, Bangalore-560072 who represented that they are the absolute owners in possession of the schedule property with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same subject to mortgage with Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd., Banashankari 1st Stage branch, Bangalore. Public are notified that any person having any rights, titles, claims, or interests in the schedule property or any objection/s of any manner whatsoever to the above transaction are hereby called upon to notify the undersigned with supporting documents within **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of this public notice, failing which my clients shall complete the sale transaction with the above said owners. No claims shall be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential site bearing **No.121** carved out of Sy./ Asst. No.42 situated at **Nagarabhavi Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** presently within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike ward No.127-Moodalapalya, 7th Cross, Kalyana Nagar, Bangalore-560072 and bounded as follows:

East by : Site No.112
West by : 25 feet Road
North by : Site No.120
South by : Site No.122

B. Gopalakrishna Adiga,
Advocate, No. FF 616, 2nd Main, Kommaghatta Road, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bangalore-560060
Place: Bangalore **Date:** 23/01/2021

ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED (ELCOT) ELCOT
CHENNAI - 35

ELCOT CIN No. U27209TN1977SGC007291

TENDER NOTICE

ELCOT invites e-Tenders towards Empanelment of Software Developers.

Tender No.	ELCOT/EG/626/OT/Empanel-Software Developer/2020-21
Earnest Money Deposit	Refer Tender document
Pre-Bid Meeting	01.02.2021 @ 03.00 PM
Tender Submission Due date and Time	15.02.2021 @ 03.00 PM
Tender Opening Date & Time	15.02.2021 @ 04.00 PM

The Tender document may be freely downloaded from our websites, for further details visit our website : https://tntenders.gov.in, http://www.elcot.in/tender.php & http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in

DIPR/488/TENDER/2021 Managing Director, ELCOT

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our client intends to purchase the property morefully setout in the schedule given below and hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property", from its owner, Sri. Munirathna son of late Sri. Subramani Naidu, residing at No.147, 11th A Main, Vyalikaval, Bengaluru 560003.

Any person/s whomsoever having any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner or objecting to such sale in favour of our client should write to the undersigned within **seven (07) days** of issuance of this public notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing their rights with regard to the Schedule Property. If no claims or objections are received within the stipulated time, it shall be deemed that the Schedule Property is free from all acts of encumbrances or claims whatsoever of any nature and our client shall proceed to complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential vacant property bearing Municipal No.34 (comprising of earlier No.34 and No.34/1, old BDA Site No.34), presently bearing BBMP PID No. 99-34-44, situated at 2nd Cross (earlier 1st A Cross), Ward No. 34, Rajmahal Vilas Extension, Bengaluru 560080, measuring East to West :- 60 ' (sixty feet) and North to South :- 45' (forty five feet) and bounded as follows :-

On or towards the East by :- Property bearing No. 25
On or towards the West by :- Road
On or towards the North by :- Property bearing No.35 and
On or towards the South by :- Property bearing No. 33
Along with all appurtenance, easements, edifices and further right of access etc

HARISH SATHYA
Sathya and Co.
Advocates and Legal Consultants
57, 1st floor, 7th Cross, Central Street,
Kumara Park West, Bengaluru 560020.
Ph : 080-23460262/ 41158500. e-mail : harish@sathyaandco.com

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SIR M. VISVESVARAYA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,
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Phone No.: 080-22956419 / 22956420, E-mail: corporate@vcb.co.in, Website: www.vcb.co.in

AUCTION SALE NOTICE

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Whereas, **M/s. Chourasia Constructions Infrastructure India Pvt. Ltd.,** #22, I Cross, Aswathanagar, Marathalli, Bangalore-560037 represented by its Directors and guarantors:- **Sri. Vijay Kumar Chourasia, Sri. Vinod Kumar Chourasia & Smt. Pramila Chourasia residing at the address** No. 525/526, "Sriharinivas", II Cross, Amarjyothi Layout, West Wing, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034 and **Smt. Rajani Chourasia** Legal heir of Late Vijay Prakash Chourasia residing at No.18, I Cross, II Main, (10th Cross), Doddanekkundi, Friends Layout, Chinnappa Garden, Bangalore- 560 037 having failed to repay the debt in respect of borrowing from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore - 560 040. The total amount due and payable by them jointly and severally as per the agreed terms and conditions is **Rs. 1,20,88,659/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Nine Only) due and payable amount as on 30-06-2020** with further interest + cost along with interest at the applicable rate.

Whereas the Bank has issued notice under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (4) of the Act, the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the mortgaged property including those more fully described hereunder, and the Bank has decided to sell the below mentioned property under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	DATE, TIME & PLACE OF AUCTION	RESERVE PRICE & EMD AMOUNT
All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing No. 8, Khatha No. 419, old No. 39/1, situated at Munekolala Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore measuring East to West 103 Ft and North to South (58' 6" + 56') / 2 totally measuring 5901.90 Sq Ft and bounded on: **East by :** Road, **West by :** Land in Sy. No.96, **North by:** Remaining portion in Sy. No.105/B, **South by :** Road.	**Tuesday, 09-02-2021 at 11.30 AM to 1.00 PM Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Shankarpuram, Bangalore.**	**Rs. 4,00,00,000/-** (Rupees Four Crores Only) EMD: **Rs. 40,00,000/-** (Rupees Forty Lakhs Only)

Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale:

1) Details of the property to be auctioned can be obtained from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore - 560040. (Ph. 080-22956413/414) on all working days during office hours.
2) The intending bidders should remit EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price by means of Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order / RTGS shall be drawn in favour of Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Bangalore after the date of publication of this auction Sale Notice.
3) The EMD will be accepted on the previous day of the auction that is **from 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM** at **Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Shankarmutt Road, Bangalore** and latest by **08-02-2021 before 10.00 A.M.**
4) The property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price.
5) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refunded without interest.
6) The EMD amount shall be liable for forfeiture without prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Auction Sale.
7) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the Sale Price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft / RTGS vide RTGS No. 006016100000001 and IFSC Code MVCB0000006 and the balance of the Sale Price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
8) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues / taxes / charges / property tax / E B charges / water charges / conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
9) The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all of bid / offer and / or adjourn / postpone / cancel the Auction Sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
10) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
11) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder **between 9.30 AM and 5.00 PM** at his expenses at the address mentioned in the Schedule.
12) The property is put for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION" and terms stipulated under securatization Act 2002. The intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title, ownership, statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

For further details the intending bidders may contact the **Authorised Officer, Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., # 109, Corporate Office, Shankarmutt Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore - 560004** or **Branch Manager, Vijayanagar Branch,** during office hours for ascertaining the details of property and also for inspection of property **(Ph: 080-22956405/420/419/413/414),** E-Mail: **vij.branch@vcb.co.in**

Place : Bangalore
Date : 19-01-2021

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-Operative Bank Limited

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ADNAN AHMED AZEEZ AHMED,** S/o. Azeez Ahmed Sharief, Residing at No.53, Shoaib Tasmiya Building, 5th Cross, Rahmathnagar, R.T.Nagar Post, Bangalore-560032, have changed my Old Name **ADNAN AHMED AZEEZ AHMED** to New Name **ADNAN AHMED,** vide Affidavit dated: 22-01-2021, Sworn before Notary, Shivakumara.M.N.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NETRAVATHI B.V.** aged 43 years, W/o. **K.M. Manjunath,** residing at NO.140, Kote Temple Street, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru-560036, have changed my name to **NETHRAVATHI B.V.** vide affidavit dated 23-01-2021 sworn before Notary **H.S. Sakalesh Aradhya,** BENGALURU

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VIVEK,** residing at Flat No. 209, Sanathan Arcade Apartment, Belathur, Kadugodi post, Bangalore-560067 inform that I have changed my daughter name from **DEVISHKA GROVER** to **AMRIT GROVER** vide Affidavit dated 23.01.2021, sworn to before Notary C. Muniswamy, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, the undersigned **Mrs. SARITHA RANI. P,** aged about 38 years, W/o. Mr. P.S. Prabhakar, resident at: Flat No. 009, V4 BLISS Apartment, 4th Main Road, Vinayaka Layout, Bhattarahalli, Bangalore – 560049, state that I have changed my name as **SARITHA RANI. P (New Name),** previously called **SARITHA RANI. R** (Old Name) for all purposes, by swearing to an affidavit in front of **K.B. Sadha Shivappa,** Notary Public on 23/01/2021.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAJKUMAR BALVIR SINGH SHAH,** R/at No.3, 1st Floor, Nagarathpet, Appurayappan Lane, Bengaluru-560002 have changed my name to **RAJKUMAR BALBEER SHAH** vide affidavit dated:23/1/2021 Before Notary **H.S.Sakalesh Aradhya** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) KARIBASAVARAJA, S/o. Eshwarappa, residing at No. 137, Ward No. 9, Veerapurada Oni Bhavihalli(V) Holagundi(P) Hoovina Hadagali(TQ) Bellary(D) 583219, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) KARIBASAVARAJA** to **(NEW NAME) VEERAPURADA KARIBASAJJA** vide affidavit Dated 16/01/2021 sworn before Notary B.A.Lakshminarayana Rao, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Smt. Sunitha K C,** W/o Army No. 2772443W, Rank-Hav/Vasanth Kumar G G, age 61 years, S/o G K Gundegowda, R/at No. 1117, Opp. Vrindavan Garden, apart 2nd Cross, Chiranjivi Layout, Hebbal, Kempapura, Bangalore-560 024 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **SUNITHA** and **SUNITHA K C** pertains to me only, hereafter I shall be known and called as **SUNITHA K C** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 22-01-2021, sworn before Advocate and Notary **VIJAYALAKSHMI K,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VIPUL DASS** S/o **Harish Dass,** Aged about 40Years, R/at No.146, Sai Kurpa Enclave Apartment 402, 7th Cross, Kodipur, Vaddarapalya, Poornaprajna Layout, Bengaluru - 560061, have changed my name to **VIPUL H DASS** vide affidavit dated:22/1/2021 Before Notary **H.G.Padmanabha Rao** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, VINOD KUMAR, resident of #15, 5th Cross, Royal Placid Layout, Behind Vibgyor School, Harlur Road, Phase-3, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560102, Karnataka, India, shall henceforth be known as **VINOD KUMAR SINGH,** vide affidavit dated 23.01.2021 before notary A S NARAYANA REDDY, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DEVA SURESH DORAISWAMY,** aged about 48 years, S/o Late S. Doraiswamy, R/a #16, Colonel Hill Road, Pavanasar Church Compound, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru-560051, Karnataka State, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **DEVA SURESH .D** to **DEVA SURESH DORAISWAMY,** hereafter I shall be known and called as **DEVA SURESH DORAISWAMY** only, vide affidavit dated 23-01-2021, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G. KASPAR** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Smt.Saroja,** Wife of Sri A. Krishnan, Aged about 71 Years, R/at: No.23, CMH Road, 18th Cross, Lakshmipuram, Halasuru, Bangalore – 560 008, state that in my husband Army Service documents my name mentioned as Saroja and my year of birth mentioned as 1945, but in Appendix-A and Appendix-II my name mentioned as V. Saroja and my year of birth as 1949, hence I hereby declare that my real name is **Saroja** not V. Saroja and my year of birth is 1945 not 1949 vide Affidavit dated 18.01.2021 sworn before Notary Public A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) SHRUTHI.R, residing at No. 401, Krishna Bliss, Owners Court Layout East, Kasavanahalli, Sarjapur Road, Bangalore-560035, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SHRUTHI.R** to **(NEW NAME) BABITHA KARTHIK MALLI** vide affidavit Dated 30/12/2020 sworn before Notary H.R.Karunakara, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ANITHA KUMARI** R/at Flat No. MA501, Park West Apts, Shapoorji Paloongi, Binnypet Magadi Road Bengaluru- 560023 have changed my name to **ANITA JAIN** vide affidavit dated:23/01/2021 Before Notary **H.S. SAKALESH ARADHYA** Bangalore

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Latha Srinivas Prabhu,** W/o Late Srinivas Prabhu, aged about 82 years, residing at E-1, Block-2, Parijatha Apartments, Green Glen Layout, Outer Ring Road, Bellandur, Bengaluru-560103 do hereby declare **M. Lalitha Nayak** alias **Lalitha Bai Nayak** alias **Lalitha Bai Manjeshwar** alias **Latha S Prabhu** alias **Latha Srinivas Prabhu** are one and the same and all the aforesaid names belong to me only. Vide affidavit dated 23/01/2021 sworn before Advocate and Notary N. Narayan Swamy, Bengaluru and having Reg. No.28/2021in Book No.1 at Page No.8.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MEENAKSHI RAMAKRISHNAN,** R/at No.21033, Tower 21, Prestige Shantiniketan, Bengaluru-560048, have changed my name to **MEENAKSHI ARUNKUMAR** vide affidavit dated: 22/1/2021 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **B. RAKESH,** S/o. Late T.M. Basavaraj, residing at No. 120, Ground Floor, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, Anugraha Layout 2nd Stage, Bilekahalli, Bangalore - 560 076, have changed my name as **B.B. RAKESHA,** vide affidavit dated 21.01.2021 before Notary Public **H.S. DHARMA PRASAD,** Bangalore.

Grooms

We are looking for an educated and employed groom for our daughter (37), BTech and MBA. The groom should be 38-40 and well settled . Email: vellagur@gmail.com or contact +919446481352 CL00387656

We are looking for an educated and employed groom for our daughter (35), MBBS and Indian Foreign Service (IFS). The groom should be within 40 year old and well settled. Email: vellagur@gmail.com or contact +919446481352 CL00387661

CSI Syrian Christian (Malayali) Upper Middle Class Parents invite proposals for our daughter (30/158/PhD). 9446371395; 9447057160. CL00388943

QuoteExpress
PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES
ROBERT H SCHULLER

$545.04 bn was India's forex reserve as of January 15, according to RBI data. This was an increase of $3.378 billion over the previous week

New app kicks off countdown to Budget

Breaking tradition this year, the Union Budget for 2021-22 will be completely paperless and distributed digitally

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday kicked off the annual budgetary exercise with the traditional 'halwa ceremony', which marks the beginning of the process of printing documents for the Union Budget.

However, breaking the tradition this year, the Union Budget for 2021-2022 will be paperless for the first time and the budget document will be shared with MPs and officials via the new Union Budget Mobile App.

According to a finance ministry statement, this has been done to ensure hassle-free access to Budget documents for Members of Parliament (MPs) and the general public.

"The mobile App facilitates complete access to 14 Union Budget documents, including the Annual Financial Statement (commonly known as Budget), Demand for Grants (DG), Finance Bill etc. as prescribed by the Constitution," the statement said.

The ministry also said that the app has a user-friendly interface with embedded features including downloading, printing, search functions, zoom functions, bidirectional scrolling, etc. The documents will be available in English and Hindi, and users can use the app on both Android and iOS platforms. The app has been developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the guidance of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA).

According to the government, the Budget documents will be available on the Mobile App after the completion of the Budget Speech by the Union Minister of Finance in Parliament on February 1.

The Budget session of Parliament will start from January 29 and will continue until April 8, with a gap between February 16 and March 7. Earlier, the Budget used to be presented on the last working day of February. However, this was changed in 2017.

Union Budget 2021-22 takes the digital route

- New mobile app facilitates complete access to 14 Union Budget documents such as the Annual Financial Statement, Finance Bill, etc.
- The app has a user-friendly interface with embedded features including downloading, printing, search functions, zoom functions, bidirectional scrolling
- The Union Budget documents will be available in both the English and Hindi languages

Vaccine diplomacy a game-changer for Pharma sector

JAYANTA ROY CHOWDHURY @ New Delhi

ON a wintry morning earlier this week, as the country shivered from a drop in mercury levels, loaders at Mumbai airport gingerly passed along boxes of vaccines, marked 'fragile', into the waiting hold of an Air India flight. The aircraft would be the first of many carrying 'Made in India' Covid-19 vaccines from Poona's Serum Institute to capitals in countries far and wide to help combat the global pandemic.

In the years ahead, analysts and business historians would probably call this the defining moment of India's economic diplomacy. Some 4.9 million doses are being sent as gifts to neighbours, while millions more are being exported for profit.

"The vaccine flights are helping bolster our position as a reliable medicine manufacturing power. As it is, the pandemic helped push Indian Pharma exports by 20 per cent and we are expecting to end the year with $25 billion sales... with this we can expect even better growth in the coming financial year," said Prof Biswajit Dhar of JNU, a former member of the Board of Trade.

Except Pakistan, which has opted for China's Sinovac vaccine, India's "supplies under grant assistance" are being shipped to all neighbouring countries including Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and Seychelles. India has also contracted to sell Covishield, the vaccine developed by Oxford-Astra Xeneca and manufactured by Serum Institute of India, to Brazil, Morocco, South Africa, and Saudi Arabia, with flights carrying the precious cargo taking off to these countries last Friday. Exports to more nations are to follow.

"Despite our growing strength, there was an undercurrent of propaganda in the global market about the reliability of our medicines ever since the US Food and Drugs regulator started dishing out notices to Indian drug companies. However, by becoming a reliable vaccine maker, we can now counter that propaganda effectively," said Siddhartha Dasgupta, Advisor, East India Pharmaceuticals.

India has become the preferred partner for vaccine sales partly because reports on rival China's vaccine candidates are unclear, according to medical experts, and partly since prices at between $3-5 a dose are among the lowest globally. It is also easier to store and distribute compared to Pfizer's and Moderna's vaccines that are being extensively used in the US.

Meant to rival China's offerings, India's 'gifts' and paid for vaccines have not only helped India sell its soft power—earning thanks from Brazilian President J M Bolsonaro among others—but also push its stature as the "pharmacy of the world" throughout the world. The shipments began within 3 days of India starting its own massive inoculation drive.

DISCOM DISTRESS

India's power demand spike signals recovery, but discom dues a worry

JONATHAN ANANDA @ New Delhi

IN a heartening sign that India's economy is beginning to shake off the impact of the pandemic, power consumption broke all-time records twice this past week. On Friday morning, peak power demand hit a record high of 187.3 gigawatts (GW). But while rising demand is an indicator of wider economic recovery, the power sector itself may not immediately benefit. The problem, as almost always, is discom indebtedness.

The Centre had kicked off a massive ₹1.2 lakh crore liquidity assistance program for power distribution firms after the Covid-19 outbreak last year, and by September 2020, ₹1.18 lakh crore in loans had been sanctioned. But the amount of money discoms owe power generators has continued to rise. Discoms' pending dues to gencos stood at ₹1.3 lakh crore as of the end of November 2020, compared to ₹97,875 crore at the end of March 2020.

Discom executives note that since the factors driving debt accumulation are fundamental, a rise in demand would likely be accompanied by more pending dues. Among the key issues is a high level of distribution losses, a classification which includes unpaid bills, and delayed state subsidy payments. "Both subsidy payments and bill collections have been stressed by the pandemic," said a senior state discom executive, noting that since government revenues have dived post-Covid, subsidy payments are likely to remain a problem. As for bill collections, industry sources say they have improved, but not as fast as demand has.

According to ICRA Ratings, while the profitable commercial and industrial demand is seen improving in FY22, discom losses are likely to remain at over ₹75,000 crore due to inadequate tariff hikes, high distribution losses, and additional interest costs incurred on loans extended under the Centre's relief scheme.

Tourism and hospitality sector seeks Budget booster shot to aid recovery

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE tourism and hospitality sector is seeking large scale support from the government in the coming Budget due to the unprecedented impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the industry. Representatives say that it may take the sector 3-4 years to recover fully.

According to industry executives and experts, the government should grant the long pending demand of industry status to the sector and give direct relief, especially to hotels, by lowering GST rates. Nakul Anand, Chairman, FAITH and Executive Director, ITC Ltd, said India has less than 0.2 million classified rooms which has a direct correlation to country's global tourism share of around 1 per cent. "If India targets 1 million classified quality hotel infrastructure, which would imply a mammoth capital expenditure of ₹2.5 lakh crores (assuming a conservative weighted average estimate of ₹25 lakhs per room) Hotels across the country thus require to be declared as an infrastructure sector so that long term funds are accessible at suitable interest rates to attract private capital hospitality, to create all India jobs and build quality accommodation supply," he said.

> **Hotels across the country require to be declared as an infrastructure sector so that long term funds are accessible at suitable interest rates**
>
> Nakul Anand, Chairman, FAITH & Executive Director, ITC Ltd

Pavethra Ponniah - Vice President, ICRA said that the industry, requires support. "An Infrastructure status will will help bring down costs of several utilities for the industry," he noted.

Similarly, the rationalisation of the GST rates from the present 12-18 per cent, and reintroduction of input tax credit for restaurants and domestic travel travelers would play a big role in reviving demand, they said. FAITH also seeks export status, an underwriting fund for travel agents and tour operators, and a global mice bidding fund, among other measures.

Vivek Agarwal, Partner-Infrastructure, Government and Healthcare (IGH) at KPMG said that given the ongoing vaccination drive and need to bolster health infrastructure, the government will have limited financial leeway for sector-specific interventions. He added, "Additional measures to provide liquidity for the hospitality industries working capital needs will be welcome. GST restructuring for products such as Medical, wellness and MICE may give the required impetus".

EXPRESS READ

Birla Corp third quarter net profit up 82% at `148.42 crore

New Delhi: MP Birla Group flagship Birla Corporation Ltd on Saturday said its consolidated net profit jumped 82.1 per cent year-on-year to `148.42 crore for the third quarter of the current fiscal on the back of cost rationalisation and higher sales. The cement maker had posted a net profit of `81.49 crore last year.

JM Financial third net profit rises 15% at `181 crore

New Delhi: JM Financial on Saturday reported a 15 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to `181 crore in the third quarter ended December. The financial services provider had posted a net profit of `158 crore in the year-ago quarter. However, gross revenues of the company fell by 1.6 per cent to `891 crore during October-December period.

Trade Promotion Council of India seeks flat 5% GST on processed food

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IN its pre-budget recommendation to the government, the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) has sought a flat five per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on all processed food items and a separate fund for R&D as well as testing labs for meeting global standards.

According to TPCI founder-chairman Mohit Singla, non-tariff barriers in the food sector are impacting the industry and trade. "Therefore, Indian texting facilities should be made at par globally with safe standards, so that it is accepted worldwide. Also, to meet the new standards such as Codex Alimentarius standard of the EU will require a lot of investment," he added.

For small and medium companies, the marketing of products in global shelves comes with a huge cost, largely still unaffordable. "One way could be to provide concessional credit to meet the high cost; or tax deduction on expenditure incurred on marketing of brands abroad, etc. is the need of time to scale Indian products to the global shelf," the trade body said in its suggestion.

Other demands of the industry include tax holiday for five years for companies investing in infrastructure, including digital infrastructure; for existing projects, capital investment to be extended up to 50 per cent accelerated depreciation to encourage modernisation; competitive import tariffs over five years, with lowest or nil slab on inputs or raw materials; and input tax credit on food sales as an added incentive.

"Some of the items like - chewing gum and white chocolate, fat and oil, cocoa powder, waffles and wafers coated with or containing chocolate, attract 28 per cent GST. Similarly, products such as condensed milk, refined sugar, sugar cubes, all preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk for infant use and sold retail, pasta, noodles, etc. attracts 18 per cent GST, which leads to the increasing the overall cost of the product," noted Vivek Agarwal of Capital Ventures.

Major demands from the sector include:

- Tax holiday for five years for companies investing in infrastructure, including digital infrastructure
- For existing projects, capital investment to be extended up to 50 per cent accelerated depreciation to encourage modernisation
- Competitive import tariffs over five years, with lowest or nil slab on inputs or raw materials

DCB Bank Q3 profit sees flat growth at ₹96.21 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

NEW generation private sector lender DCB Bank has registered a flat growth in net profit at ₹96.21 crore during the quarter ended December largely on account of higher provisioning. During the quarter under review, provisions more than doubled to ₹148 crore, from ₹59 crore in the year-ago period.

Revenues, however, rose marginally by 3.3 per cent at ₹1,023.86 crore. While treasury income was higher in the December quarter, interest income from retail and corporate lending business fell sharply. The operating performance of the bank has also been steady with net interest income increasing four per cent to ₹335 crore during the quarter as against ₹323 crore in 2019. Non-interest income went up 66 per cent to ₹154 crore. It has also reported ₹687 crore as net restructured standard advances including Covis-19 relief, largely contributed by mortgages, commercial vehicles and the MSME sector.

"While the ground situation is improving steadily, customers deeply impacted by the lockdown disruption may need more lime to revive their business to pre-Covid-19 level," said Murali M. Natrajan, Managing Director and CEO of DCB Bank.

GRASSROOTS

Micro firms can create 10.3 mn jobs: Report

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

INDIA'S informal micro and small firms can create 10.3 million jobs in next five years and add ₹2,16,000 crore to the economy with the creation of a network that connects MSEs and helps them scale up digitally, said a policy document released by the experts at Azim Premji University in collaboration with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Saturday.

Udyog Sahayak Enterprises Network (USENET), according to the policy proposal , can connect 15 MSEs initially and, over the course of five years, a total of 4.4 crore enterprises will be connected through the creation of 18 lakh such networks. It noted that the government's aggressive policies can enable the growth of the current 6.2 crore MSEs to 8 crore MSEs over the next 10 years.

Based on Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker observed in the sector and assuming a 12% nominal rate of growth, these jobs represent an additional economic value of ₹2,16,000 crore at the end of 5 years and over ₹19 lakh crore at the end of 10 years, it noted.

The report also suggested the creation of a support system that will improve Ease of Doing Business for largely informal micro and small entrepreneurs. Udyog Sahayak Enterprises will take services such as digitisation and formalisation, availing of government loans, subsidies or other benefits, etc., to the micro-entrepreneurs' doorstep.

Business & Beyond

SBI Chennai Circle donates ambulance to KKCT Hospital

As part of its CSR activity, SBI Chennai Circle donated an Ambulance to Kanchi Kamakoti Childs Trust Hospital. The keys of the vehicle were handed over to the CEO of the hospital Chandra Mohan and its Medical Director Balasubramanian by Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, Managing Director, in the presence of B Sankar, Chief General Manager, Chennai Circle, and Muralidharan, Chief General Manager, Corporate Centre.

Canara Bank T'puram Circle holds loan mela

Canara Bank has conducted a Kudumbashree Loan Mela at Panchayath Hall, Panamaram, with P M Asiya Teacher, President, Grama Panchayath, Panamaram presided over the meeting. Nair Ajit Krishnan, General Manager, Thiruvananthapuram Circle, Canara Bank inaugurated the function and handed over the sanction letters to beneficiaries. The circle also provided financial assistance of `14.5 lakh to the Community Health Centre, Panamaram, Wayanad.

Reliance Digital unveils Digital India sale

Reliance Digital is back with the Digital India Sale this year between January 22-26. The sale will feature offers and exclusive deals on a wide range of electronics. Reliance Digital is offering a 10% instant discount of up to `10,000 on Citi, ICICI & Kotak Mahindra Bank Debit & Credit Cards of EMI/Non EMI transactions at Reliance Digital and My Jio Stores. This benefit can also be availed on Consumer Durable loan transactions on Kotak Mahindra Bank & ICICI Bank.

SAKSHAM 2021 commences at Haldia Refinery

The month-long annual flagship event Saksham-2021 held under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has been kick-started at Haldia Refinery, with Partha Ghosh, ED & RH- Haldia Refinery, and other senior officials, in attendance. The theme for the event this year is "Green and Clean Energy". During the inaugural ceremony, Ghosh administered the SAKSHAM pledge to the gathering and explained how improvements in efficiency reduces fuel consumption and leads to clean environment.

Bharat Masala nominated for state export award for fourth year for the year 2018-19

Jay Bharat Spices Private Limited (Bharat Masala) has been, for the fourth year in a row, nominated by the Odisha state government for the Best Exporters Award. The company has been nominated by the Directorate of Export Production & Marketing, Government of Odisha. The company has been awarded the State Export Award earlier by the state government in 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18. The current nomination is for the year 2018-19.

Bowling with injury was no brainer: Saini

Navdeep Saini who made his Test debut in the Australia series after years of wait, said he risked aggravating his injury by bowling in the second innings but given what was at stake, "it was a no brainer". "Ajinkya bhaiya asked me If I would be able to bowl with the injury, I just had to say yes," Saini said.

Double blow, bigger gains

India doubles players' impressive run at Thailand Open comes to an end

India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (R) & Ashwini Ponnappa went down fighting in the mixed doubles semis on Saturday | AFP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

DOUBLES specialist Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, along with his partners, lost two crucial ties on Saturday. Towards the end of his second match, one could sense an air of resignation in Satwik's body language. Shots that had fetched him big points 24 hours earlier was deserting him. One after another, the pattern was telling. That eventually proved one too many.

But this disappointment comes after plenty of positives. Until a few years ago, doubles discipline was not one that would excite badminton fans in the country. If Ashwini Ponnappa, Satwik's partner in mixed doubles, and Jwala Gutta had a powerful hand in driving the discipline in the landscape, youngsters like Satwik and Chirag Shetty have ensured they are here to fight for a big chunk of that space.

Saturday was a day of misses for the doubles players at the ongoing Thailand Open in Bangkok but they bowed out after adding to their growing reputation. Notably, Satwik making it to the semis of both the men's doubles and mixed doubles was the first time an Indian had achieved that feat in a Super 1000 tournament. It was also the first time a mixed doubles pair had made it last four stage at this level. Two doubles pairs making it to the business end at this level of the competition is something unheard of.

Even during their tie against World No 3 pair of Dechapol Puavaranukroh and Sapsiree Taerattanachai from Thailand, Satwik and Ashwini's, World No 36, fighting spirt was visible. In the first game, it was a seesaw battle towards the end with the pair saving three game points Earlier, Satwik and chirag had lost 18-21, 18-21 to World No 9 Malaysian combination of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik.

SEMIS RESULTS

Men's doubles: Aaron / Soh Wooi (MAS) bt Satwik/Chirag (IND) 21-18, 21-18; **Mixed doubles:** Dechapol/Sapsiree (THA) bt Satwik/Ashwini (IND) 22-20, 18-21, 21-12.

Women's singles: Marin (ESP) bt An Se Young (KOR) 21-19, 21-15, Tai Tzu-ying (TPE) bt R Intanon (THA) 12-21, 21-12, 23-21. **Men's singles:** Vittinghus (DEN) bt Antonsen 21-19, 21-8; Axelson (DEN) bt Chou Tien Chen (TPE) 21-20, 18-21, 21-15.

Jolly good story: Treesa, new kid on the block

MARTIN JOSEPH @ Kochi

ASK Cherupuzha native Jolly Mathew Thaickal, what his town in Kannur district is known for and the former physical education teacher would identify it as a quiet region known primarily for agriculture. Being a volleyball coach, Jolly proudly says that international player Joby Joseph also belongs to the same neighbourhood. However, these days, the Thaickal house is quietly trying to make the area known for more than just farming or volleyball.

Jolly's younger daughter Treesa Jolly is a badminton player who is starting to make waves in the sport. The 17-year-old is in the top ten of the latest junior rankings released by Badminton World Federation (BWF). The youngster sits in eighth place in both the singles and doubles category. In fact in doubles, she is highest ranked Indian in junior women's. Considering that Treesa comes from a region with no infrastructure for badminton, it definitely is not a mean feat.

"It is incredible to find myself in the top ten in the world. It's been a long journey of hard work and struggle. When I started out, hardly anyone played the sport in my village. When my father started encouraging me and my sister to play badminton, lot of people questioned him. Many suggested it was of no use and that no one from our region would make a career out of it. But my father didn't pay heed to any of it and kept training us and offered full support," said Treesa.

Today, besides breaking into the top ten in world rankings, she is training at the Pullela Gopichand Academy under him and is also part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (development group), which underlines her potential.

The year 2019 was a breakout year of sorts for her as she won multiple titles. Most notably, she won bronze in the women's doubles at the U-19 International Junior Grand Pix held in Pune and also finished third in women's U-19 doubles at the Yonex German Junior Cup. She also won a series of national titles with the majority of them coming in doubles.

"I'm concentrating more on doubles right now in terms of career goals and the aim is to qualify for Olympics 2024. Even though I have a scholarship from the Sports Ministry, there are still a lot of financial difficulties. My father had to quit his job to help with my career because he couldn't concentrate on both. But the fact that we've come this far gives us confidence. I'm very thankful to my parents and my family," Treesa said.

WONDERSON

James Anderson is aging like a wine. The 38-year-old picked up his 30th five-wicket haul on Day 2 of the second Test against Sri Lanka at Galle. Here are the statistical highlights...

30 No of 5-wicket hauls for Anderson. Among fast bowlers only Richard Hadlee is ahead of him with 36.

At 38, he is the oldest pacer to take a five-wicket haul in the sub-continent. The previous record was held by Hadlee who took a five-fer at 37.

606 No of wickets for Anderson. He is just 13 behind Anil Kumble, who is at third place among leading Test wicket-takers.

15 No of consecutive years that Anderson has picked up five-wicket hauls.

Root leads England fightback after Anderson classic
Brief scores: Sri Lanka 381 (Mathews 110, Dickwella 92, Dilruwan 67, Anderson 6-40) vs England 98/2 (Root 67 n.o).

EXPRESS READ

ISL: Kerala fail to get past 10-man Goa

BAMBOLIN: A 10-man FC Goa held Kerala Blasters to a 1-1 draw in the ISL here on Saturday. The Gaurs took lead via Jorge Ortiz Mendoza (25'), while Rahul KP (57') scored a brilliant equaliser, a header in the second half.

Karnataka's Rishi clinches tennis title

BENGALURU: Karnataka's Rishi Reddy played an impressive game to clinch the AITA Men's Championship here on Saturday. He defeated Gujarat's Madhwin Kamath in straight sets to win it 6-3, 6-2 in a one-sided final.

Combined Moffusil XI collect five points

BENGALURU: Combined Moffusil XI managed to defeat Moffusil XI to collect five points in the SA Srinivasan Memorial U-23 tournament. The latter were 69 all out in the second innings with Shashank K sclaping six wickets. Combined Moffusil reached the target in the eighth over.

Olympics or not, preparation on for Neeraj

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IS the 2021 Olympics happening? It is a million dollar question with athletes around the world in a confused state of mind. With nothing concrete regarding the quadrennial event's fate at present, athletes have no option, but to continue with their training and hope that they will be able to showcase their talent in the grandest stage of all come July-August.

Even Neeraj Chopra, who has already qualified for Tokyo, and other Indian javelin throwers presently training in Bhubaneswar, have been talking about it but continuing with their practice earnestly. As of now, the 23-year-old is working on his technique, including his release.

"It looks like the Olympics is going to happen... People in Japan are also trying to make it happen," Chopra said in a virtual interaction.

"As athletes, we have to keep on continuing doing the hard work. Whether the Olympics takes place or not we can talk about later."

It is more of a concern for senior Indian athletes whose domestic season has not even started. Even athletes who have qualified for the Olympics have not featured in big events to test where they stand.

However, Chopra is keeping all the options open and his participation in future tournaments also hinges on the Olympics. He has not zeroed in on the exact competitions that he will feature. If it does take place, the 2018 Asian and Commonwealth Games gold medallist confirmed that he will participate in main competitions primarily in the lead up to the Games.

"If the Olympics does not happen, I will be sad as two Olympics just went in front of my eyes you can say. But, see there are other competitions too. My preparations are going well and that is not going to stop at all. Whatever competitions are there like the Diamond League and all. I will be able to participate and I will give my best," Chopra said.

LOST

I, KRUTHIKA S D/o SURESH K.G, K L E Society's School Nagarbhavi Bangalore KK(41101) I Lost my **CBSE Secondary School Examination, March-2019- Original Marks Card Roll No. 4069501** Misplaced, I, lodged a Police complaint on 22.01.2021. Under lost report No. **013135/2021.**
Contact No.9980739753
Sd/- Kruthika

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 01/2021 Dated 13.01.2021
The Undersigned on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works.
Description in brief (e-open tender)
5 Watts Hand-Held, Digital VHF (Walkie Talkie) sets without Keypad and without display in frequency band of 146-174 MHz, 16 channel capacity, greater than or equal to 2300 mAH High capacity Li-ion Battery, an additional greater than or equal to 2300 mAH Li-ion spare battery (1No) and additional HELIFIX Antenna (1No) with Single Unit Rapid Charger as per RDSO specification No.
RDSO/SPN/TC/107/2018 Rev 0.0 or latest Technical Parameter Cl 5B. Both batteries with each walkie talkie should be of radio OEM make and BIS approved with warranty of 5 years for handsets and 1 year for accessories. OEM/Authorized Dealer of OEM/Authorized sub dealer of OEM certificate should be produced along with the supply. Preferable Brand/Make: Motorola, Kenwood or Shenzhen HYT science & Tech Co. Ltd. Tender Due on 12.02.2021. Qty: 310 (100+190+20)
Details can be seen on www.ireps.gov.in for e-tenders. For information contact on Ph.No. 080-22873081 e-mail ID: srdmmsbe@gmail.com. NO manual tenders will be entertained against e-tender. Please register with IREPS on website www.ireps.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Materials Manager
South Western Railway, Bangalore-560023
PUB/123/AASP/PRB/SBC/2020-21

UCO BANK
(A Govt of India undertaking)
Malleswaram Branch
47,15th Cross, West Park Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
Phone : 080-23349334, 23318865(Fax), Email - malles@ucobank.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property) [Rule 8(1)]
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the UCO Bank, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued the Demand Notice dated **25.2.2020** calling upon the Borrower, **Mr H.V.Bhaskar Sringeri & Mrs.Prapulla B.Sringeri,** No.23, I Main Road, IDBI Layout, Off Bannerghatta Road, Gottigere, Bangalore 560083 and Guarantor, Mr. N.Ashok Kumar, No.504,17th Cross, 36th Main Road, 6th Phase, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore-560 078 to repay the amount in the Notice being **4,34,708/- (Rupees Four Lacs Thirty Four thousand Seven Hundred & Eight only)** as on 5.2.2020 along with further interest from 31.1.2020 and other charges within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrowers/Guarantors having failed to repay the said amount, Notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 on **19th January 2021.**
The Borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of UCO BANK, Malleswaram Branch, Bangalore for an amount of Rs 4,34,708/- (Rupees Four Lacs Thirty Four thousand Seven Hundred & Eight only) along with further interest from 31.1.2020 and other charges thereon.
The Borrower's /Guarantor attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section-13 of the act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY.
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY : (Description of the Entire Property) : All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.4, (in Sy No.17/1), Old Khata No.749, Present V P Khata No.4811, Gottigere Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, (presently I Main Road, IDBI Layout, Gottigere, Bannerghatta Road), Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West 36 +46/2 feet and North to South 30 feet and bounded on : East by : Private Property, West by : Road, North by : Property (site) No.2, South by : Property (site) No.5.
Date : 19.1.2021 **Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **UCO BANK**

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
I **Mr. Ronak Bharat Shah** S/o. Late Bharat Premchand Shah residing No.6 Adarsh Seelin Villa, Flat no 002, North Park, Kumara Park East, Bangalore do hereby inform to the general public that I have lost the original property documents - Allotment Letter, Lease cum Sale Agreement, Possession Certificate dated 28-05-1952 of Site No. 2 (old No. 25), South End Street, Kumara Park East, Bangalore while cleaning the house. In spite of best efforts, I could not trace the same and in this regard on 19-01-2021 I had lodged police complaint at Crime Branch, Bengaluru City Police, Vide Lost Report No.010755/2021. If anybody finds the above said documents or is in possession, please handover the same to the above said address or contact on 080 - 23128433.

LOST
I, **MURALIDHARA** S/o **C.S Anantha Murthy** R/at No.65/A, 17th Cross, 2nd main, Mahalskmi Layout, Bengaluru-560086 have lost Original Property Document, **No.4090/1988,** Sy No. **264/1,** Site No.6 Property Situated at : Kommaranapalli Village, Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri Dist, Tamil Nadu, the above said Documents was in my custody but it was lost on:18/11/2020 at Mahalakshmi Layout to Malleshwaram Bengaluru, I have lodged a complaint regarding lost of documents at Malleshwaram Police station **No.1985/** 2020 **GSC No.Po1339292993433,** Dated:18/11/2020 Finders may Contact me in the above mentioned addres **Mobile No: 8300293486**

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
I **Mrs. Vina Hasmukh Shah** W/o. Late Hasmukh Premchand Shah residing No.9, 8 Dimension Apartment, Flat No 606, 6th Floor, West Park Road, Kumara Park East, Bangalore do hereby inform to the general public that I have lost the original property documents - Allotment Letter, Lease cum Sale Agreement, Possession Certificate dated 28-05-1952 of Site No. 3 (old No. 24), South End Street, Kumara Park East, Bangalore while cleaning the house. In spite of best efforts, I could not trace the same and in this regard on 19-01-2021 I had lodged police complaint at Crime Branch, Bengaluru City Police, Vide Lost Report No.010730/ 2021. If anybody finds the above said documents or is in possession, please handover the same to the above said address or contact on 080 - 23128433.

IN THE COURT OF II ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU
Crl. Mis. No. 515/2020
BETWEEN:
1. Mrs. Kenchamarakka, W/o Late Rangappa, Aged about 90 years,
2. Mr. Srinivasaiah, S/o Late Rangappa, Aged about 67 years,
3. Mr. Rangaswamy, S/o Late Rangappa, Aged about 57 years,
No.1 to 3 are residing at Kullegowdana Palya, K. Gollahalli Post, Bengaluru South Taluk.
4. Mrs. Lakshumamma, D/o Late Rangappa, Aged about 75 years, Residing at No.4, 1st A Cross, Hosakerehalli Dwaraka Nagar, Bengaluru South Taluk. **...Petitioners**
And:
The Registrar of Births and Deaths, Bengaluru South Taluk, Office at Ground Floor, Kandaya Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru-560 009. **...Respondent**
PAPER PUBLICATION
Whereas, The Petitioners have filed above petition for issue of Death Certificate of deceased Mr. Rangappa, S/o Late Rangappa, who demised on 15/08/1985 at Kullegowdana Palya, K. Gollahalli Post, Bengaluru South Taluk. Any person interested in this matter, may appear before the above court **on 10th February 2021 at 11.00 a.m.** in case any objection in this regard to the above issue.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court this 22.1.2021.
By order of the Court, Sheristedar, Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore.
Advocate for Petitioner:
Ameya Fadnis, Advocate
No. 2/2, Mayura Mansion, 1st Cross, Gandhinagar, Bangalore - 560 009.

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
(An ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified Company)
Sankaramangalam, Chavara, Kollam-691 583, Kerala, India
Ph: +91 476 2651215 to 2561217
Fax: 91 0476 2680101, 2686721 E-mail: contact@kmml.com, URL www.kmml.com
TENDER NOTICE
Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-tendering portal **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in** or **www.kmml.com**

No.	Tender ID	Items
1.	2021_KMML_406443_1	For the supply of SS Pipe
2.	2021_KMML_406054_1	For the supply of Crude Tickle transfer pump

Chavara 24.01.2021 Sd/- **DGM (Mtls) For The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd**
Our products: Titanium Dioxide, Titanium Tetra Chloride, Nano Titanium, Titanium Sponge

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
VELLORE CORPORATION
Corporation Office, Vellore
Roc.No.6209/2018/S1 **SHORT RE-TENDER NOTICE** Date : 22.01.2021
The Commissioner, Vellore Corporation invites tenders in two cover system for the following works as per the conditions laid down in the tender notice published in website **https://tntenders.gov.in.**

S. No.	Name of the work (Smart City Mission)	Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs	EMD Cost Rs.	Period for Completion
1	Implementation of System Integrated Command and Control Centre at Vellore Corporation under Smart Cities Mission	1025.30	10,25,300/-	6–Months
2	Pre-Bid Conference	25.01.2021 at 11.00am at The Chamber of City Engineer Vellore Corporation.		
3	Date and time and venue of Tender	05.02.2021 Friday 3.00 pm at Vellore Corporation		
4	Date, Time and Venue of opening	05.02.2021 Friday 3.30pm at Vellore Corporation Office		
5	Tender document availability and other details	Other Details can be obtained from the tender notice published in website **https://tntenders.gov.in** or from Vellore Corporation Office, Engineering section during working hours on working days.		

For contact : 0416 - 2220578 DIPR/484/TENDER/2021 **Commissioner, Vellore Corporation**

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
Tamil Nadu Road Sector Project – II, ICERS Cell (Loan No.8499-IN)
Tender Reference: IN-TNRSP-SDC-RSIW-1-RFB
Invitation for Bid
National Competitive Bidding (Through e-Procurement)
1. The Superintending Engineer (H), ICERS Cell on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu invites bids for **"Road Safety Improvement Works in Safe Demonstration Corridor (SDC 01): Uthiramerur - Kanchipuram Road SH 118A (km 0/000 - 26/400) and Chennai – Ponnerikarai – Kanchipuram Road MDR 66 (km 70/400 - 74/800)".**
2. The bid document will be available online from **25.01.2021** at **15.00 hours** (IST) and should be submitted online in the website **www.tntenders.gov.in**
3. Kindly refer the Request for Bids (RFB) uploaded as part of Bid Document in **www.tntenders.gov.in** for details. Any clarification and amendment will only be published in the website.
4. Online Pre bid meeting will be held on **03.02.2021** at **11.30 hours** (IST) (Refer RFB for more details)
5. Deadline for online submission of Bids : on or before **15.00 hours** (IST) on **24.02.2021**
6. Date of online Bid opening :at **15.30 hours** (IST) on **24.02.2021**
Superintending Engineer (H), ICERS Cell,
O/o the Director General, Highways Department,
HRS Campus, Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.
DIPR/490/TENDER/2021 Ph.: +91–44 –22351066 E-mail: tnicerscell@gmail.com

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer,
(MPED-Central), N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002
No: EE(MPED)/TEND/13/2020-21 **Date: 22.01.2021**
e-AUCTION SALE NOTIFICATION
(Through **GOK e-Procurement Portal** only)
The Executive Engineer (MPED-Central), Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), invites Sale of Metal and Wooden Scrap Items, Parked at the aforesaid address, as shown in the **Annexure-1** will be conducted by way of e-Auction sale on Behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP. The highest rates received in the e-Auction will be considered for acceptance.
E-Acution Schedule : (1) Availability of Tender document from **27.01.2021** onwards. (2) Inspection of Scrap Items upto **10.02.2021 (During office Hours).** (3) Last date for Participation for e-Auction is **11.02.2021** upto **5:00** pm. (4) Online Evaluation of e-Auction is **12.02.2021.** (5) Live Auction Bidding date & time is **15.02.2021 (Starting at 10:30 AM).** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** **Sd/-**
Executive Engineer, (MPED-Central)
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

TAMILNADU KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD
Kuralagam,5th Floor, Chennai - 600 104. PH.No: 044 25340462, 25340761
SHORT RE-TENDER NOTICE
Sealed Tenders are invited from the reputed Manufacturers / Distributors / Traders for the supply of the following.

Raw Material	Quantity required
Bathing Soap Noodles(80:20)	500 M.T's(approximately)

Due date for receipt of Tender: 09.02.2021, 3.00 P.M. Opening of Technical Bid : 09.02.2021, 4.00 P.M. The Tender form can be obtained from the Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board, Kuralagam, 5th floor, Chennai - 104 on payment of Rs.500/-(which is not refundable) on all working days between 10.00 A.M and 2.00 P.M upto 09.02.2021 The Tender documents can also be downloaded from www.tenders.tn.gov.in at free of cost.
DIPR/485/Tender/2021 Chief Executive Officer

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
General Services Division
Electrical Services Section
Post Bag no. 1. Yelwal, Mysore 571 130 /
Telephone : **0821-2406443** / Fax : **0821-240 3064**
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
The Superintending Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysuru invites on behalf of the President of India, Sealed item rate tenders from experienced Contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for the following work(s):

Tender reference No.	**BARC/GSD/ESC/FDAS AMC/WT-02/2020**
Name of work	"PROVIDING NON COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR THE CONVENTIONAL AND ADDRESSABLE TYPE FIRE DETECTION AND ALARM SYSTEMS (YEAR 2021) AT BARC, MYSURU"
Estimated Cost	₹11.30 lakh (Rupees Eleven lakh Thirty thousand only)
Earnest Money	**Nil.** Bid Security Declaration to be submitted.
Period of Completion	**6 Months**
Security Deposit	2.5% of tendered value
Performance Guarantee	3.0% of tendered value
Processing fee	₹667/- (Rupees six hundred sixty sevenonly) Non refundable
Tender Sale Period	From **25/01/2021** to **05/02/2021**
Due date & time for submission of Tender	**12/02/2021** up to **15.00 Hrs.**
Date & time of opening of technical bid	**19/02/2021** up to **15.30 Hrs.**

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from web site **www.barc.gov.in**
Note: Non compliance of Bid Security Declaration would amount to suspension from bidding for this tender and also future tenders for a period of 3 years as decided by the Superintending engineer.
Superintending Engineer
For & on behalf of the President of India

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL. NLBC Division
Rodalbanda-584127, Tq.Lingasugur, Dist.Raichur, E-mail : kbjnlnlbc4@gmail.com
No.KBJNL/NLBC/PB/2020-21/1762 Date : 20-01-2021
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-tendering only)
On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer KBJNL, NLBC Division, Rodalabanda invites **percentage tenders in two cover system** from eligible PWD Class.1 contractor for Construction of Pick-up, CC Road & Drain works comes under Raichur & Koppal Lokasabha Constituency (Total 2+2=4 Nos) under SCP/TSP, as detailed in the short term Tender Notification published in e-procurement portal viz **http// eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** The Intending tenderers may download the tender document through e-procurement portal viz., http//eproc.karnataka.gov.in from **21-01-2021** and further details can be obtained from this office in any working days during office hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIP/Raichur/524/MC&A/2020-21 **KBJNL NLBC Division, Rodalbanda**

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Division, Madhugiri
No.EE/KPWD/Dvn/AE.2/Tender/2020-21 Date: 18.01.2021
Short Term Tender Ref No: 23/2020-21
(E-Procurement) Two Cover
On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Item tenders KW-4 (Standard tender document) and transparency rules KTPP Act 1999 and KTPP Rule 2000 in public collections in Karnataka Department of Public Works Department from qualified (civil) contractors Tenders are invited through E-Procurement for the works in Madhugiri range, more information can be **obtained at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or can be had from the undersigned. **Telephone No: 08137-283336,** 02 Works of Shira and Pavagada Taluk
Approximate amount of tender up to **Rs.300.00 Lakhs**
1) Last Date for Receiving Tender through E-Procurement: **22.01.2021 to 30.01.2021 Evening 4.00 pm 2)** Last Date for Receiving Tender (Online): **30-01-2021 Evening 4-00pm**
3) The technical bids will be opened on **01.02.2021 Evening 4.00 pm**
4) The Financial bids will be opened on : **04.02.2021 Evening 4.00 pm**
5) Enquiry: Last Date for clarification: **28.01.2021 Evening 4.00 pm**
DIPR/Tumkur/Shirdi Sai/169/2020-21 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Madhugiri**
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

French doctors have new advice to slow the spread of the virus: stop talking on public transport. The French Academy of Doctors issued guidance saying people should "avoid talking or making phone calls" in subways, buses or in public where social distancing isn't possible.

UK doctors seek review of Pfizer vax timetable

12-week gap between two doses too long, feels British Medical Advisers, wants relook

HEALTH

LONDON: A major British doctors' group says the UK government should "urgently review" its decision to give people a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine up to 12 weeks after the first, rather than the shorter gap recommended by the manufacturer and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The UK, which has Europe's deadliest coronavirus outbreak, adopted the policy in order to give as many people as possible a first dose of vaccine quickly. So far almost 5.5 million people have received a shot of either a vaccine made by US drugmaker Pfizer and Germany's BioNTech or one developed by UK-Swedish pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca and Oxford University.

AstraZeneca has said it believes a first dose of its vaccine offers protection after 12 weeks, but Pfizer says it has not tested the efficacy of its jab after such a long gap. The British Medical Association on Saturday urged England's chief medical officer to "urgently review the UK's current position of second doses after 12 weeks."

In a statement, the association said there was "growing concern from the medical profession regarding the delay of the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine as Britain's strategy has become increasingly isolated from many other countries." "No other nation has adopted the UK's approach," Dr. Chaand Nagpaul, chairman of the BMA council, told the *BBC*.

He said the WHO had recommended that the second vaccine shot could be given up to six weeks after the first but only in exceptional circumstances. "I do understand the trade-off, but if that was the right thing to do then we would see other nations following suit," Nagpaul said. Yvonne Doyle, medical director of Public Health England, defended the decision as "a reasonable scientific balance on the basis of both supply and also protecting the most people."

Researchers in Britain have begun collecting blood samples from newly vaccinated people in order to study how many antibodies they are producing at different intervals, from 3 weeks to 24 months, to get an answer to the question of what timing is best for the shots.

The doctors' concerns came a day after advisers said there was evidence that a new variant of the virus first identified in southeast England carries a greater risk of death.

EXFILE • ENTOMOLOGY

WILD BEES UNDER THREAT

A quarter of known bee species in the wild haven't appeared in public records since the 1990s, a worrying new study reveals. While this could indicate that these species have become too rare to be found in their natural habitats, many, if not all, may be extinct. A look at the study

STUDY

Argentinian researchers used a publicly available database on specimen collections and observations, complemented by citizen-science efforts. Despite a large increase in the number of records available, 25 per cent fewer species were reported between 2006 and 2015 than before the 1990s, they found

Bee species in the records were taken from multiple families, including apidae, of which bumblebees, honey bees, stingless bees and carpenter bees are types, among many others

Other bee families include megachilidae (which includes leafcutter bees) halictidae (known as sweat bees because they're often attracted to perspiration), andrenidae (commonly known as mining bees) and the rare melittidae family

OBSERVATION

It was noted that the decline is not evenly distributed among families. Records of halictid bees — the second most common family — have declined by 17 per cent since the 1990s

Those for melittidae, a small and rarer family, have gone down by 41 per cent. The team highlighted how species such as the giant Patagonian bumblebee, which was abundant in Chile and Argentina four decades ago, are now an uncommon sight

A booming international bee trade has involved the co-introduction of bee pathogens, which has caused the decline for the giant Patagonian bumblebee and other species

Patagonian bumblebee

FACTORS AFFECTING BEES

Bees are affected by climate change, pesticides and pathogens, low genetic diversity and habitat loss and fragmentation from intensive farming

WHY THEY ARE IMPORTANT

Wild bee pollination is fundamental to the reproduction of thousands of wild plant species and is key to securing yields in about 85 per cent of our food crops

PESTICIDE PROBLEM

Declines in recent months to honey bee numbers and health caused global concern due to the insects' critical role as a major pollinator

Bee health has been closely watched in recent years as nutritional sources available to honey bees have declined and contamination from pesticides has increased

Combined exposure to pesticide and poor nutrition decreased bee health. Bees use sugar to fuel flights and work inside the nest, but pesticides decrease their hemolymph ("bee blood") sugar levels and therefore cut their energy stores

When pesticides are combined with limited food supplies, bees lack the energy to function, causing survival rates to plummet

Something is happening to the bees, and something needs to be done. With citizen science and the ability to share data, records are going up exponentially, but the number of species reported in these records is going down

Study author Eduardo Zattara at CONICET-Universidad Nacional del Comahue in Argentina

A police officer stands guard at the Yau Ma Tei area, in Hong Kong | AP

Hong Kong imposes two-day lockdown amid fresh wave

HEALTH

HONG KONG: Thousands of Hong Kong residents were locked down in their homes Saturday in an unprecedented move to contain a worsening coronavirus outbreak in the city.

Authorities said in a statement that an area comprising 16 buildings in the city's Yau Tsim Mong district would be locked down until all residents were tested. Residents would not be allowed to leave their homes until they received their test results to prevent cross-infection. "Persons subject to compulsory testing are required to stay in their premises until all such persons identified in the area have undergone testing and the test results are mostly ascertained," the government said.

The restrictions, which were announced at 4 am in Hong Kong, were expected to end within 48 hours.

Hong Kong has been grappling to contain a fresh wave of the coronavirus since November. Over 4,300 cases have been recorded in the last two months, making up nearly 40 per cent of the city's total. Cases in Yau Tsim Mong represent about half of infections in the past week. Approximately 3,000 people in Yau Tsim Mong had taken tests thus far, joining the thousands of others around the crowded city of 7.5 million who have been tested in recently.

Police guarded access points to the working-class neighborhood of old buildings and subdivided flats and arrested a 47-year-old man after he allegedly attacked an officer. The man had reportedly been told he would have to be tested after coming into the area and would not be allowed to leave until he could show a negative result.

40 million Pfizer doses for poor countries

MEDICINE

LONDON: Pfizer committed to supply up to 40 million doses of its Covid-19 vaccine this year to a World Health Organisation-backed effort to get affordable shots to poor and middle-income nations. Deal is a boost to the global program known as COVAX, as wealthy nations have snapped up most of the millions of coming shots.

The commitment, announced at a virtual press conference held by the WHO, is seen as important because Pfizer and its partner BioNTech last month won the first vaccine emergency authorisations from WHO and US Food and Drug Administration. Earlier, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus criticised drugmakers for seeking profits from the pandemic and mostly supplying wealthy countries.

Pfizer's 40 million doses are a tiny sliver of what's needed for COVAX, which aims to vaccinate billions of people in 92 low and middle-income countries.

Tedros said Pfizer's commitment and about 150 million doses of the vaccine developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University could enable COVAX to begin delivering doses in February, pending finalisation of a supply agreement with Pfizer and emergency use approval for AstraZeneca's vaccine. He said the global program is on track to deliver by year's end 2 billion doses of vaccines.

SNOW SHOW

Boatmen clear snow on their *shikaras* during fresh snowfall, at Dal Lake in Srinagar on Saturday | PTI

FACT OF THE MATTER

Two new ant species found

INSECT

Two new species of a rare ant genus have been discovered in Kerala and Tamil Nadu by a team of scientists, the Department of Science and Technology said on Saturday. The team was led by Himender Bharti of Punjabi University in Patiala. One of the two species found in the Periyar Tiger Reserve of Kerala has been named Ooceraea Joshii in honour of professor Amitabh Joshi, an evolutionary biologist from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research. "The species of the ant genus Ooceraea add to the diversity of this rare genus. They differ from others of the same genus on the basis of the number of antennal segments," the DST said. New species are named after some distinguishing attribute or location but are often named after scientists.

Endangered croc in Thai

WILDLIFE

The critically endangered Siamese crocodile has been spotted for only the second time in a decade at Thailand's largest national park, according to photos released on Saturday. The freshwater reptile — snapped by camera traps at Kaeng Krachan National Park near the Thai border with Myanmar — was once ubiquitous across Southeast Asia, but its numbers have plummeted in the region. It is listed as critically endangered on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's red list. National park officials estimate only about 20 remain in the wild because of hunting and habitat loss, but on Saturday the nature reserve shared a rare spot of good news. The crocodile is estimated to be about 3 metres long.

Crowdfunding to fight pandemic in Malawi

HEALTH

LILONGWE: A new crowdfunding campaign in Malawi has raised $100,000 in a week and helped provide basic equipment and medicines in state hospitals to fight the pandemic.

An appeal launched on Facebook last week has already helped secure oxygen cylinders and essential medicines at the four main public hospitals in the poor aid-dependant southern African nation, the man spearheading the campaign said.

Malawi has recorded 17,365 coronavirus cases and 445 deaths in a population of 18.6 million. "A friend was hospitalised for Covid-19. Then he posted an SOS call on social media asking for help as the hospital had no oxygen pressure regulators," said France-based Malawian Stanley Kenani, who oversees the project.

"Although friends put the money together and bought him one, he still lost his life. I wondered whether friends on social media could come together and contribute a little money for medical supplies and equipment that could save lives," said Kenani.

Malawians responded enthusiastically, from students donating their pocket money to poor Malawians in the countryside pitching in. Blantyre resident Andrew Banda, who donated $1 said he had seen the new coronavirus affect many around him. "A few of my friends have died and this prompted me to want to do something towards fighting this pandemic," he said. "I do not have much but I believe that the little that I have contributed will help save a life," said Banda.

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SAFETY MATTERS

Theatre, cinema, concerts thrive in Madrid despite soaring infection rates

CULTURE

MADRID: With entertainment venues shuttered across much of Europe, Spain stands out as a cultural oasis where people still go to the theatre and cinema or watch concerts despite soaring infection rates.

"Having the chance to be here with you is a huge blessing and with all my heart I applaud the great efforts being made in this country to defend culture," Mexican tenor Javier Camarena told Madrid's Theatre Royal last week.

In the audience were 1,200 people in suits, fur coats and masks, often the FFP2 type, after having their temperature taken as part of a meticulous safety protocol.

Following a months-long lockdown at the start of the pandemic, Spain's cultural venues reopened in the summer operating with strict capacity limitations, well-spaced seating policies and bars and cloakrooms closed.

And since then they have never closed their doors, unlike in other countries such as France or Germany.

But it has meant a costly investment by the venues. The Theatre Royal, where Spain's King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia attended a performance in September, said it has spent one million euros, part of which went on an ultraviolet light system for disinfecting the auditorium, the dressing rooms and even the costumes.

And the performers themselves are not exempt from these new rituals: as well as respecting the safety distance and protective partitions, the musicians must undergo regular tests and wear masks, except for the players of wind instruments.

"We can and we must" put on these performances, Spain's Culture Minister Jose Manuel Rodriguez Uribes said, who wants to show that culture "is a safe space". But the pandemic has forced some venues to temporarily shut, such as Barcelona's Liceu operahouse which closed its doors in November.

Under the combined pressure of nationwide curfews, public anxiety and economic pressures, many cultural venues are fighting for their survival. According to Javier Olmedo, director of "Noche en vivo" association which represents 54 concert halls in the Madrid region, "80 percent have not opened since March".

"It's a time of distress." Many initiatives to bring people back to theatres and concert halls have popped up on social networks, tagged #SafeTheatre or #CultureisSafe, insisting they have not been linked to any outbreaks.